

Decodable Texts: Ending Blends (-ft,-pt Blends)

"This story is about a baseball game and a smart move! Remind your reader to look for -ft words and read with excitement like a sportscaster."



The Left Shift

Coach Greg ran to the team.

"Shift left!" he said.

The kids ran fast to the left.

The next batter hit a soft pop.

The left kid got the ball!

He kept his grip and got the out.

Coach Greg gave a big clap.

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

left

shift

soft

kept

grip



Name: _____

The Left Shift

1. What did Coach Greg yell?

- A. "Run home!"
- B. "Shift left!"
- C. "Grab your bats!"
- D. "Keep the pace!"

2. What happened after the kids moved?

- A. A soft pop was hit
- B. A storm came
- C. A dog ran on the field
- D. The game ended

3. Fill in the blank:

The left kid got the _____!

4. Why did Coach Greg want the team to shift left?

5. What makes this a smart move in baseball?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: -ft Ending Blend

Genre: Realistic Fiction

High-Frequency Words: said, the, got, his, he, left

Before Reading

1. We'll look for -ft words like *left*, *shift*, and *soft*.
 2. Have you ever seen or played a baseball game?
 3. Why might a coach tell a team where to move?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** Practice -ft blends slowly: *le...ft*, *shi...ft*, *so...ft*
 2. Watch for -ft words like *left*, *shift*, *soft*, *kept*, *grip*
 3. What does Coach Greg want the team to do?
 4. Use a loud, confident voice for the coach's lines!
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After Reading

1. What happened after the team shifted left?
 2. Why was that a good move for the play?
 3. Would you want to be the one to catch the ball?
 4. Skill Mastery: Highlight 5 -ft words in the story
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Read this again like you're calling a game—clear and loud!
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Activity Idea

Draw the “left shift” play with kids in motion. Label each part of the play with -ft words like *shift*, *left*, *soft*, *grip*, and *kept*.

Coaching Tip

Sports-themed stories boost engagement—lean into energy and movement while building decoding fluency.

