

Decodable Texts: Silent E (I-E)

"This story teaches about fireflies using i-e words like 'rise' and 'shine.' Let's read and discover how they light up the night!"



The Life of a Firefly

A firefly is a small bug that shines in the night.

It has a light inside its body.

This light helps it find a mate or give a sign.

Fireflies live near plants, trees, and water.

They hide in the grass in the daytime and rise when it gets dark.

The light they make is called a "cold light."

It does not give heat, just a glow.

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

fire

rise

shine

life

inside



Name: _____

The Life of a Firefly

1. What do fireflies use their light for?

- A. To see in the dark
- B. To find a mate or give a sign
- C. To cook food
- D. To warm their home

2. Where do fireflies go in the day?

- A. They shine in the sky
- B. They rise above trees
- C. They hide in the grass
- D. They sleep in water

3. Fill in the blank:

The light they make is called a _____ light.

4. What are two facts you learned about fireflies in this story?

5. Why do you think fireflies come out only at night?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: i-e Silent E Words

Genre: Nonfiction – Life Science

High-Frequency Words: has, in, just, near, when

Before Reading

1. This story uses i-e words to describe how fireflies live and shine.
 2. Have you ever seen a firefly at night?
 3. What do you think makes bugs glow?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** Use your finger to cover the silent E and sound out the base word first. Then add the long I.
 2. Watch for i-e words that describe the firefly and what it does
 3. Where do fireflies go during the day?
 4. Read the “cold light” line in a calm, soft voice
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After Reading

1. Tell how fireflies use their light and where they live
 2. Why is the firefly’s glow called a “cold light”?
 3. What other animals or bugs light up, and how are they the same or different?
 4. Skill Check: Highlight six i-e words used in the passage
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Try reading the story again in a whisper voice to match the quiet night setting!
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Activity Idea

Draw a scene with fireflies glowing in the night. Label parts of the picture using i-e words like “life,” “rise,” and “shine.” Write a sentence about what makes their glow special.

Coaching Tip

Support curiosity by connecting science facts to real-world wonder—it makes decoding feel magical and meaningful.

