

Decodable Texts: Short o (CVC Words)

"This is a mystery about a lost box. Help your reader look closely for short o words like *box*, *lot*, and *mop* to uncover where the box went."



The Lost Box

Dot got a box.

It had a top.

She hid it in a lot.

The box is not in the lot!

Dot got a mop.

She ran to the shed.

The box was in a cobweb!

Dot said, "I got it!"

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

box

top

lot

mop

got



Name: _____

The Lost Box

1. Where did Dot hide the box at first?

- A. In the shed
- B. Under a bed
- C. In a lot
- D. On the top

2. Where was the box in the end?

- A. In a cobweb
- B. In the van
- C. In a bag
- D. On the mat

3. Fill in the blank:

Dot said, "I _____ it!"

4. Why was Dot looking for her box?

5. What clues helped her find it?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: Short o (CVC)

Genre: Mystery Fiction

High-Frequency Words: the, a, is, in, it, not

Before Reading

1. Remind your reader that short o says “aw” like in *box*.
 2. Have you ever lost something important?
 3. Where are some places people might hide things?
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During Reading

1. Sounding Out Support: Help tap and blend tricky words like *cobweb* into syllables
 2. Look for short o clues that help solve the mystery
 3. Where did Dot go after the lot?
 4. Read Dot’s final line with relief and excitement
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After Reading

1. What was the mystery in this story?
 2. How did Dot find her lost box?
 3. What could she do next time so she doesn’t lose it again?
 4. Find 5 short o words and read them aloud
 5. Fluency Tip: Read it again like you’re telling someone about a secret you just found!
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Activity Idea

Make your own “lost and found” map! Draw three places Dot looked, and mark where the box was finally found. Use short o labels like *lot*, *mop*, and *box* to explain each location on the map.

Coaching Tip

Encourage playful rereading—mystery stories invite imagination while reinforcing phonics.

