

Decodable Texts: Long Vowel Teams: aw

"This story focuses on the 'aw' sound as in 'paw.' Watch for words like 'paw,' 'Dawn,' and 'fawn' as you read!"



The Paw Print Puzzle

Dawn loved walking through the woods near her house. One morning, she saw tiny paw prints in the soft dirt.

She crouched low and followed the prints past a small log and into the tall grass.

Suddenly, she saw a small fawn resting by a tree!

Dawn sat still and watched. She didn't want to scare it away.

After a while, the fawn stood up, gave a little stretch, and trotted back toward the woods. Dawn smiled and knew this was a moment she would never forget.

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

paw	Dawn	fawn	saw	lawn
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Name: _____

The Paw Print Puzzle

1. What did Dawn see in the dirt?

- A. A shiny coin
- B. Tiny paw prints
- C. A map to treasure
- D. A big feather

2. What did Dawn do when she saw the fawn?

- A. She ran after it
- B. She sat still and watched
- C. She called her friends
- D. She took a loud photo

3. Fill in the blank:

Dawn sat still and watched. She didn't want to scare the _____ away.

4. Why do you think Dawn stayed quiet when she saw the fawn?

5. What would you do if you saw a wild animal while on a walk?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: Long Vowel Team 'aw' (as in "paw")

Genre: Fiction – Nature Adventure

High-Frequency Words: the, she, and, her, with

Before Reading

1. Remind them of the target skill: "We're working on words where 'aw' says the /aw/ sound, like in 'paw.'"
 2. Have you ever followed animal tracks or seen an animal outside?
 3. What kinds of animals might leave tiny paw prints?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** Remind kids that 'aw' makes the /aw/ sound. Try that sound first when sounding out tricky words.
 2. Watch for 'aw' words and stretch them out carefully.
 3. What did Dawn see at the end of the trail?
 4. Try reading Dawn's quiet moment slowly and calmly.
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After Reading

1. Can you retell how Dawn followed the paw prints?
 2. Why was it special for her to see the fawn?
 3. Would you like to explore the woods like Dawn? Why or why not?
 4. Skill mastery prompt: "Find and underline 5 'aw' words in the story!"
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Try reading the story again like you're telling a peaceful nature story!
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Activity Idea

Draw a trail of tiny paw prints leading to a hidden animal. Label the animal and draw the setting using at least three 'aw' words. Write a sentence about what makes the moment special.

Coaching Tip

Encourage your reader to imagine the peaceful setting—it helps them connect with the story and read with feeling!

