Decodable Texts: Short e (CVC Words)

"This is a fun mystery about a red tent. Remind your reader to keep an eye out for short e words like *tent*, *wet*, and *met*. These clues will help them decode more easily."

The Red Tent

Wes met Jen at the red tent.

The tent was set in the wet grass.

Wes said, "Did you set this up?"

Jen said, "Nope! Not me."

A box sat in the tent.

Wes got the box.

The box had a map and a pen.

"Let's get the map to Deb!" said Jen.

After reading the story, have your child point to and slowly sound out each practice word.				
red	tent	met	wet	pen

Name:

The Red Tent

1. Where was the tent?

A.   In the wet grass

B.   By the red van

C.   In the big box

D.   At the top of a hill

2. What did Wes find in the box?

A.   A bell and a net

B.   A toy and a stick

C.   A map and a pen

D.   A snack and a mat

3. Fill in the blank:

Wes met Jen at the red _____.

4. Why do you think Wes and Jen wanted to bring the map to Deb?

_____

_____

_____

5. What made the tent feel mysterious?

_____

_____

_____

Coaching Guide

Target Skill: Short e (CVC)
Genre: Mystery Fiction
High-Frequency Words: the, said, was, in, to, get

Before Reading

1. Remind your reader that short e says "eh" like in *red*.
2. Have you ever found something strange in a tent?
3. What do you think could be inside a mystery box?

During Reading

1. Sounding Out Support: Help students spot common CVCs like *met*, *wet*, *pen*
2. Watch for words that rhyme or look similar
3. What did Wes find in the tent?
4. Read Wes and Jen's lines with surprise and curiosity

After Reading

1. Retell the story with the setting, problem, and solution
2. Why do you think the map was important?
3. Would you go into a mystery tent like Wes and Jen did? Why or why not?
4. Find and read 5 short e words.
5. Fluency Tip: Read the story like you are telling a spooky secret!

Activity Idea

Create your own mystery box and draw 3 short e items that could be inside.

Coaching Tip

Encourage rereading with expression—mysteries are more fun when read with emotion!