

Decodable Texts: Ending Blends (R-Blends)

"This story has a splash of mystery! Help your reader look for -rk words and read with excitement when the shark appears."



The Shark's Mark

Lila went out with the boat crew.

She had a big chart and a dark pen.

The crew saw a shark fin.

It swam past the mark on the map!

"It left a mark!" said Lila.

She drew the path with her pen.

"Let's track the shark," said the crew.

Lila gave a nod and grinned.

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

mark

shark

dark

track

chart



Name: _____

The Shark's Mark

1. What did Lila bring on the boat?

- A. A light
- B. A chart and a pen
- C. A rope and a hook
- D. A snack and a mat

2. What happened when they saw the shark?

- A. They ran
- B. They went back
- C. It left a mark
- D. They dropped anchor

3. Fill in the blank:

"It left a _____!" said Lila.

4. Why was the mark on the map important?

5. What do you think might happen next as they track the shark?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: -rk Ending Blend

Genre: Adventure / Mystery

High-Frequency Words: said, the, with, on, let's, her

Before Reading

1. Today's story has -rk words like *mark*, *shark*, and *dark*.
 2. Have you ever tracked or followed something before?
 3. Why do you think people like to study animals?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** Help readers blend short vowel sounds with -rk:
ma...rk, *da...rk*, *sha...rk*
 2. Watch for -rk words like *mark*, *shark*, and *dark*
 3. What tool does Lila use to draw the path?
 4. Use a strong voice when the crew says, "Let's track the shark!"
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After Reading

1. What did the shark do in the story?
 2. Why do you think Lila grinned at the end?
 3. Would you want to go on a boat adventure like this?
 4. Skill Mastery: Highlight 5 -rk words in the story
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Read the story again like you're leading an ocean search crew!
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Activity Idea

Draw a sea chart showing where the shark swam. Label it with -rk words like *mark*, *shark*, *dark*, and *track*. Add waves, fish, and a path line to follow!

Coaching Tip

Use adventure stories to boost engagement—tracking action and solving mystery builds comprehension.

