

Decodable Texts: Long Vowel Teams: ou (young)

"This story focuses on the 'ou' sound as in 'young.' Look for words like 'young,' 'double,' and 'rough' as you read about Buck the pup's silly day!"



Tough Pup Trouble

A young pup named Buck had a lot of energy.

He liked to dig in the yard, jump on the couch, and tug on socks.

But one day, Buck caused double the trouble.

He knocked over a basket, spilled a cup, and got his fur stuck to a brush.

"Buck!" shouted his owner. "You're a handful!"

Buck gave her a soft touch with his paw and looked up.

"You might be rough," she said, "but you're full of courage and love."

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

young

double

trouble

rough

touch



Name: _____

Tough Pup Trouble

1. What kind of pet is Buck?

- A. A cat
- B. A rabbit
- C. A pup
- D. A bird

2. What did Buck do that caused trouble?

- A. He helped clean
- B. He spilled things and made a mess
- C. He took a nap
- D. He chased a squirrel

3. Fill in the blank:

"You might be rough," she said, "but you're full of _____ and love."

4. What does this story show about loving someone even when they're a bit wild?

5. How do you think Buck showed love back to his owner?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: *ou* as in "young" (/ŭ/ sound)

Genre: Fiction – Animal / Humor + Heart

High-Frequency Words: *you, but, her, with, full*

Before Reading

1. This story uses "ou" words like *young, trouble, double, rough, touch*, and *courage*.
 2. Do you know a pet (or person!) who is wild but kind?
 3. What do you do when someone you love makes a mess?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support: Sounding Out Support:** Practice the /ŭ/ sound in "ou" words like *young, trouble, rough*, and *courage*.
 2. Watch how Buck's actions cause messes—but also show love.
 3. What does Buck do to make his owner smile again?
 4. **Fluency Tip:** Read the owner's final line with warmth and kindness.
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After Reading

1. Retell what Buck did and how his owner responded.
 2. Why do you think she still loves him, even when he makes a mess?
 3. What makes someone (or a pet) special, even when they aren't perfect?
 4. Skill Check: Highlight six "ou" words in the story.
 5. **Fluency Tip: Fluency Tip:** Read it again like you're telling a silly but sweet story to a friend.
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Activity Idea

Draw Buck with socks in his mouth, fur in a brush, and his paw touching his owner. Label parts using "ou" words like *young, double, rough, trouble, touch*, or *courage*. Write one sentence about why Buck is loved.

Coaching Tip

Stories that mix humor and heart build emotional understanding—reading gets stronger when it connects to love and laughter.

