

Decodable Texts: Long Vowel Teams: Both ay & ai

"Today, we'll read a nonfiction text using words with the long A sound spelled with both 'ai' and 'ay.' Get ready to learn how trains and planes stay safe and move fast!"



Ways Trains and Planes Move Fast

Trains and planes are great ways to travel. Both can move fast and take you far.

Trains stay safe on the rails. They have wheels with a small guide ring to help them stay in place. The rails stay flat and smooth, and people check them each day.

Planes stay safe high in the sky. Big wings help planes sail through the air. Pilots use a main path in the sky called an air lane to keep planes away from each other.

Both trains and planes need smart people to help them stay on the right path. That way, people can travel fast and stay safe!

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

train

plane

stay

main

rails



Name: _____

Ways Trains and Planes Move Fast

1. How do trains stay safe on their tracks?

- A. They have wings.
- B. They use a guide ring on the wheels.
- C. They fly through the air.
- D. They stay in a big barn.

2. What helps keep planes safe in the sky?

- A. They fly close together.
- B. They use a main air lane.
- C. They fly low near the ground.
- D. They always wait for rain.

3. Fill in the blank:

Both trains and planes need smart people to help them stay on the right _____.

4. How are trains and planes alike? How are they different?

5. Why is it important for people to check rails and air lanes each day?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: Long Vowel Team 'ai' and 'ay' Combined

Genre: Nonfiction – Transportation

High-Frequency Words: the, they, can, each, both, stay

Before Reading

1. Remind them of the target skill: “Today we’re reading nonfiction and looking for words with the long A sound spelled with ‘ai’ and ‘ay.’”
 2. Have you ever ridden on a train or a plane?
 3. What do you think makes trains and planes safe?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** When you see ‘ai’ or ‘ay,’ try the long A sound like in “train” and “stay.”
 2. Watch for target skill words as you read!
 3. What is the main job of the guide ring on train wheels?
 4. Read the last sentence with a proud and confident voice!
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After Reading

1. Can you retell how both trains and planes stay safe?
 2. Why do you think pilots and train workers need to be very careful?
 3. Would you rather travel by train or by plane? Why?
 4. Find and highlight 5 words with the ‘ai’ or ‘ay’ spelling.
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Try reading the story again like you’re explaining how to stay safe while traveling!
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Activity Idea

Draw a picture showing both a train and a plane. Label important parts like the train rails and the plane’s wings. Write a short sentence explaining how each one stays safe. Share your drawing and explain it to a family member or friend!

Coaching Tip

Encourage kids to teach others what they learned. Explaining ideas out loud helps make new information stick!

