

Decodable Texts: Long Vowel Teams: igh

"This story focuses on the 'igh' sound as in 'night.' Watch for words like 'night,' 'light,' and 'bright' as you read!"



Why Fireflies Light Up at Night

Fireflies are small insects that shine their lights on warm summer nights. They use their bright lights to find friends and stay safe.

Each night, fireflies flash their lights to send signals. Some flash fast, and others flash slow. This helps them find other fireflies nearby.

The bright light also keeps some animals away. Big birds might stay far if they see flashing lights in the dark.

The next time you see a firefly at night, try counting how many times it flashes!

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

night

light

bright

might

right



Name: _____

Why Fireflies Light Up at Night

1. Why do fireflies shine their lights?

- A. To find friends and stay safe
- B. To make loud noises
- C. To hide in tall grass
- D. To sleep during the day

2. How do fireflies stay safe from birds?

- A. They fly very high
- B. They hide in trees
- C. They flash their bright lights
- D. They cover themselves with leaves

3. Fill in the blank:

Each night, fireflies flash their _____ to send signals.

4. Why do you think some fireflies flash fast and others flash slow?

5. What would you wonder if you saw a field full of flashing fireflies?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: Long Vowel Team 'igh' (as in "night")

Genre: Nonfiction – Life Science

High-Frequency Words: the, they, to, and, their

Before Reading

1. Remind them of the target skill: "We're reading to find 'igh' words that say the long /i/ sound, like in 'night.'"
 2. Have you ever seen fireflies lighting up at night?
 3. Why might flashing lights help fireflies stay safe?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** Remind kids to try the long /i/ sound when they see 'igh.'
 2. Watch for 'igh' words and stretch them out carefully.
 3. What happens when fireflies flash their lights?
 4. Try reading the last sentence like you're giving a fun challenge!
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After Reading

1. Can you retell why fireflies flash their lights?
 2. Why do you think their lights help keep them safe?
 3. Would you like to see fireflies lighting up a field at night? Why or why not?
 4. Skill mastery prompt: "Find and underline 5 'igh' words in the story!"
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Try reading the story again like you're teaching others about fireflies!
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Activity Idea

Draw a picture of fireflies lighting up a night sky. Label at least three things using 'igh' words and write a short sentence about what you would see and hear at night.

Coaching Tip

Encourage readers to make connections to their own experiences—this helps them understand and enjoy nonfiction even more!

