

Decodable Texts: Long Vowel Teams: ay

"Today, we'll read a nonfiction story about why daylight is important. Watch for words with the long A sound spelled 'ay' as you learn something new!"



Why We Need Daylight

Daylight is the light from the sun during the day. We need daylight to stay healthy and strong.

Plants need daylight to grow. They take in light to make food. Without daylight, plants would turn gray and dry.

People also need daylight. Daylight helps our brains know when to wake and when to sleep.

Daylight keeps us warm, too. Even on a cold day, the sun's rays can help warm the air.

So the next time you play outside, think about how the bright daylight helps plants, animals, and you!

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

day

play

stay

gray

rays



Name: _____

Why We Need Daylight

1. Why do plants need daylight?

- A. To stay dry.
- B. To make food and grow.
- C. To turn gray.
- D. To stay in the shade.

2. What does daylight help people do?

- A. Eat more food.
- B. Stay up all night.
- C. Know when to wake and sleep.
- D. Hide from the sun.

3. Fill in the blank:

Even on a cold day, the sun's _____ can help warm the air.

4. Why is it good for people to spend time outside during the day?

5. What might happen if we had no daylight for many days?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: Long Vowel Team 'ay'

Genre: Nonfiction - Science

High-Frequency Words: the, we, our, when, to, and

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 'ay.'"
 2. What do you like to do during the daylight hours?
 3. Why do you think plants and people need light?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** Remind kids that the 'ay' spelling makes the long A sound like in "day."
 2. Watch for target skill words as you read!
 3. How does daylight help keep us warm?
 4. Use a bright and happy voice when reading about the sunlight!
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After Reading

1. Can you retell how daylight helps plants, animals, and people?
 2. Why do you think the author wants you to think about daylight the next time you play outside?
 3. Do you think people spend enough time outside during the day? Why or why not?
 4. Find and highlight 5 words with the 'ay' spelling.
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Try reading the story again and smile while you read to match the bright feeling of daylight!
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Activity Idea

Go outside and list five things you see that need daylight. Draw one of them and write a sentence about how the sun helps it. Then, share your drawing and tell why daylight is important for what you chose!

Coaching Tip

Help kids connect new facts with their own lives by asking what they see and feel when they play outside during the day.

