

Decodable Texts: Ending Blends (R-Blends)

"This story is about gardening with Mr. Turk! Help your reader spot -rk and -rt words and read with steady pacing like someone giving step-by-step help."



Work the Dirt

Mr. Turk went to the yard.

He must work the dirt.

First, he got a cart and a fork.

He dug in the soft part of the dirt.

Next, he set a plant in the spot.

Last, he gave the dirt a pat.

"It will grow fast," said Mr. Turk.

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

work

dirt

fork

part

cart



Name: _____

Work the Dirt

1. What was Mr. Turk doing?

- A. Planting seeds
- B. Chasing bugs
- C. Building a shed
- D. Feeding birds

2. What tool did Mr. Turk use?

- A. A rake
- B. A fork
- C. A net
- D. A pan

3. Fill in the blank:

He must work the _____.

4. What order did Mr. Turk follow to plant something?

5. Why is the soft part of the dirt important?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: -rk, -rt Ending Blends

Genre: Nonfiction / Gardening

High-Frequency Words: said, the, he, must, it, will

Before Reading

1. We're working on -rt and -rk words like *dirt*, *work*, and *fork*.
 2. Have you ever helped plant something in a garden?
 3. What does dirt need for plants to grow?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** Help kids break down short vowel + -rt and -rk endings: *wo...rk*, *di...rt*, *fo...rk*
 2. Watch for -rk and -rt words like *work*, *part*, and *cart*
 3. What did Mr. Turk do first, next, and last?
 4. Use calm, step-by-step reading for each line.
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After Reading

1. Can you retell the steps Mr. Turk followed to plant?
 2. Why do you think he patted the dirt at the end?
 3. Would you want to work the dirt like Mr. Turk?
 4. Skill Mastery: Highlight 5 words with -rt or -rk endings
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Try reading this again like you're giving a gardening lesson.
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Activity Idea

Make a "Garden Steps" guide. Draw each step that Mr. Turk took: dig, plant, pat. Label them with -rt and -rk words like *dirt*, *fork*, *cart*, and *part*.

Coaching Tip

Use stories like this to model sequencing—reading becomes clearer when kids track steps and actions.

