

Story by Berys Dixon · Illustrations by Danielle McDonald

# A Mud Picnic



Little Learners Love Literacy®

## How to use this book

The Little Learners Love Literacy® stories are written for beginner readers. They enable children to practise their phonic skills through reading. Each stage is carefully sequenced to give children confidence and success.

Encourage children to 'decode' or 'sound out' any unfamiliar words. To do this, children point to each letter saying the sounds; for example, *t-o-p* or *b-e-d*, blending the sounds together to say the word.

Stage Plus 4 Little Learner books use the sounds practised in Stages 1, 2, 3 and 4. They also focus on:

- **The letter 'a' as a word:** introduce children to reading the word 'a' or 'A' as the letter name. To avoid confusion at this stage of learning, avoid calling it 'u' as in 'uncle'.
- **Consonant clusters:** two consonant letters/sounds next to each other in a word, such as, best, wind, jump. Children decode the individual consonants so that they can hear each sound.
- **Double consonants – one sound:** double consonants can represent one sound in words such as roll, pill, yell, off, mess.

**Heart words:** These are words that children need to 'learn by heart' as they cannot decode them at this stage. As children develop more knowledge of the alphabetic code, these words will become decodable. Only the new heart words are listed.

**Speed Sounds:** Children point to each sound and read it. Make sure children use pure sounds, that is without an 'uh'. Refer to the Little Learners Love Literacy® Teacher Resource for further guidance. Children need to know these sounds to read this book.

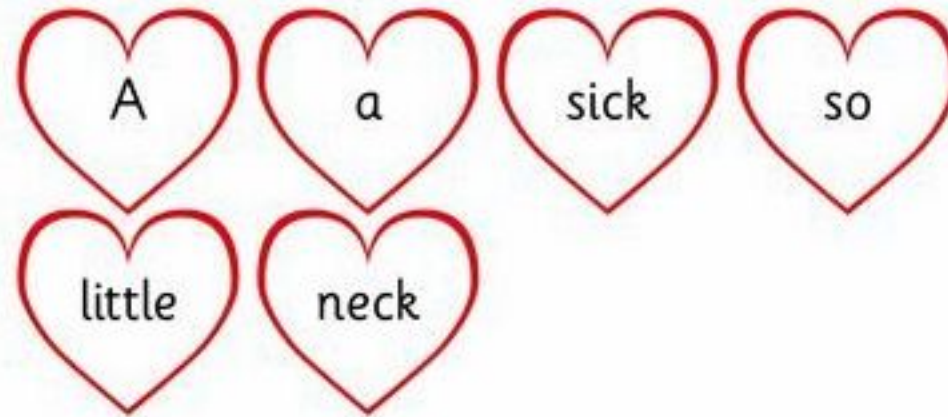
**Questions to talk about:** After children have read the book, it is important to talk about the questions and enjoy the story together. These questions help with comprehension and vocabulary. If they wish, children can refer to the book when answering the questions.

**Speed words:** This word list gives children practice reading decodable words. Encourage children to use decoding as their strategy until they can read the word automatically. Repeated reading practice helps fluency and automaticity.

Children take turns, with one child 'sounding out' a word from the list, while the other child finds the word and reads it.

Photocopy the page twice, cut up the words and play a matching game or create your own.

## Heart words



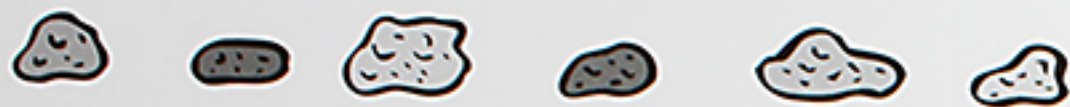
## Speed sounds



## Questions to talk about

- What is Mum's job?
- What does a vet do?
- Why does Mum say 'Wag Webb'?
- How does Pip help Mum?
- What might Pip be when she grows up?

Pip has six little rocks,



six cups and



a big pot of mud.



“Sit still,” she tells Big Ted  
and Meg.

“I will mix up the mud.”



### Stage 1

**Sounds:** m s f a p t c i

**Heart words:** the The My my I

- 1 Sam, Pip, Tim
- 2 I am Tim
- 3 My cat Tip
- 4 The map
- 5 Sam is it

### Stage 2

**Sounds:** b h n o d g l v

**Heart words:** the The my My I

- 6 Pip
- 7 Tim and the van
- 8 At the dam
- 9 My hat
- 10 Sam in the pit

### Stage 3

**Sounds:** y r e qu z

**Heart words:** he to was we she

- 11 Ned
- 12 Big Ted and Meg
- 13 Tim's quiz
- 14 Dad and his hot dog
- 15 The rat

### Stage 4

**Sounds:** j u k x w

**Heart words:** of are too for her

- 16 At the fun run
- 17 Mud
- 18 In the log hut
- 19 On the bus
- 20 The big red box

### Stage Plus 4

**Sounds:** a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o  
p q r s t u v w x y z

**Focus:** double consonants –  
one sound

- 20a The Little Vet
- 20b Sad Tip
- 20c No Ned
- 20d A Mud Picnic
- 20e The Big Wind Day

### Stage 5

**Sounds:** a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o  
p q r s t u v w x y z ck

**Focus:** adjacent consonants, ck

- 21 A Fan-tas-tic Snack
- 22 The Pip and Tim Zoo
- 23 The Best Stuff
- 24 A Bag of Junk
- 25 Splat!

### Stage 6

**Focus:** ck sh ch th ng

- 26 Quack!
- 27 The Shed Shop
- 28 The Munch Bunch Fun Park
- 29 Thud Thump Thunk
- 30 A Day in the Jungle

### Stage 7

#### Unit 1

**Focus:** ai ay ee ea igh ie oa

- 31 The Snails That Tim Forgot
- 32 The Teeny Tiny Tree
- 33 The Sky High Pie Shop
- 34 The Not So Good Goat
- 35 Beach Camp

### Stage 7

#### Unit 2

**Focus:** ar or er ir ur air

- 36 Art Party
- 37 Silly Sports Day
- 38 Monster Picnic
- 39 Airy Fairy Fair
- 40 Ha! Ha! Ha!

### Stage 7

#### Unit 3

**Focus:** oo ow ou oi oy

- 41 Hullabaloo
- 42 Down on the Farm
- 43 Oink, Oink, Oink!
- 44 Oops!
- 45 Hullabazoo

### Stage 7

#### Unit 4

**Focus:** oo ow ou oi oy

- 46 A Strange Tale
- 47 Rise and Shine
- 48 High Hopes
- 49 A Huge Day
- 50 Things to Amaze You

### Stage 7

#### Unit 5