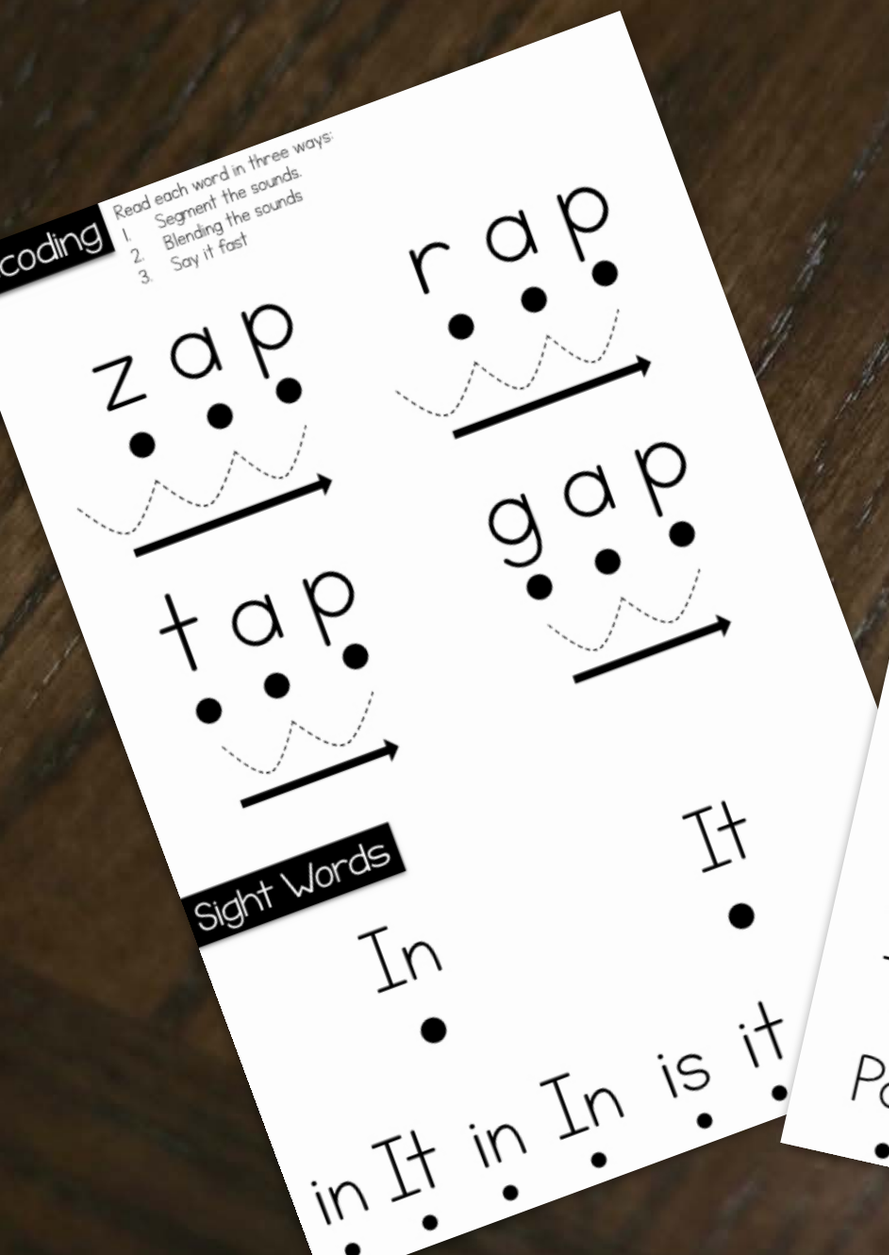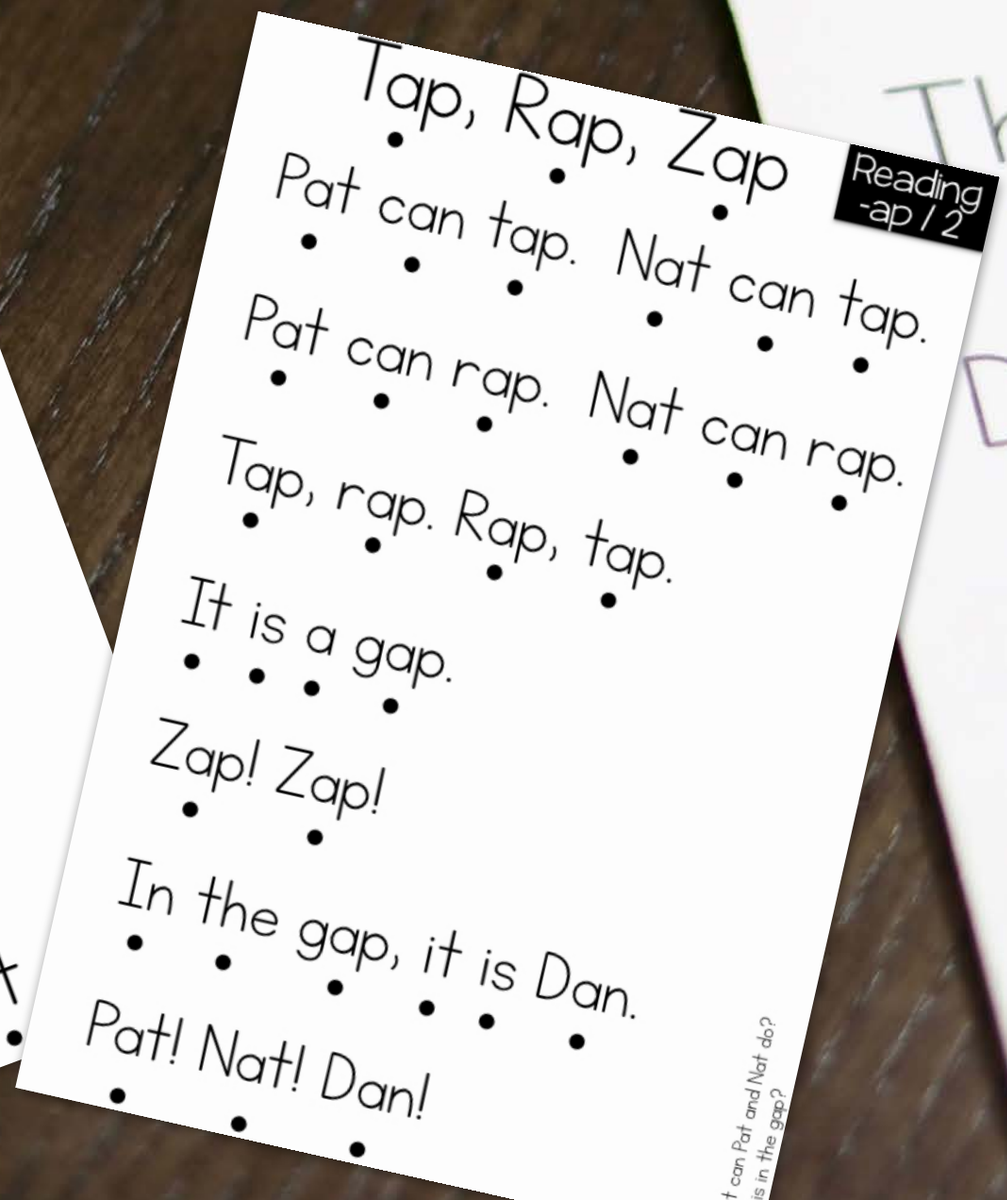
WORD FAMILY PHONICS READERS

SHORT A







Teacher Notes

These Word Family Readers for CVC Short A words are perfect for students who are learning to read with phonics patterns. They are highly controlled passages that only contain words within that word family or within a previously taught word family. Two new sight words are introduced with each new word family. Previously taught sight words are practiced and repeated. The passages get progressively longer and more difficult as students are taught more word families.

Some of the texts hold very little meaning because they have been heavily controlled for specific sounds and sight words. Before reading, talk about the text with students so that they become familiar with the context of the story. You may need to build some background knowledge. For instance, in the Rat Hat passage, talk with students about different kinds of hats they have seen and if they have ever seen a hat that is the shape of a rat or a cat. Before the story A Gag, be sure students know what a gag (joke) is. The passages are meant to be silly and fun for students to read.

I have included comprehension questions. There are two question on the reading page that are oral discussion questions. The same questions are repeated on the comprehension page with primary writing lines. There is also a space for drawing about the story.

Word cards are included for both phonics words and sight words. Phonics words have a picture. Both black and white and color versions are available for most images. Cut on the solid line and fold on the dotted line to create a flash card.

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Page Features

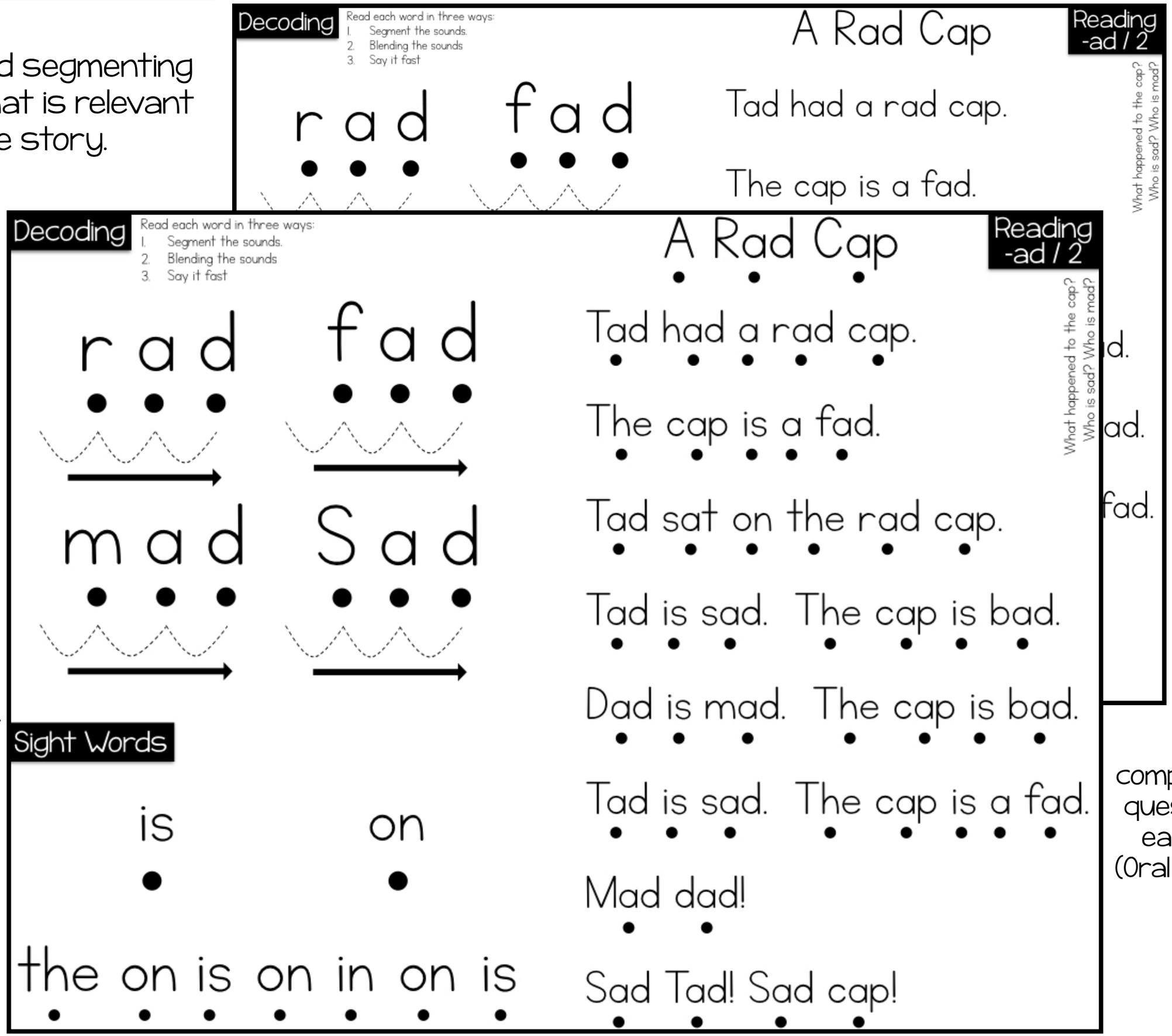
Blending and segmenting practice that is relevant to the story.

Three stories for each word family with and without dots under each word

Stories are labeled with the word family and story number

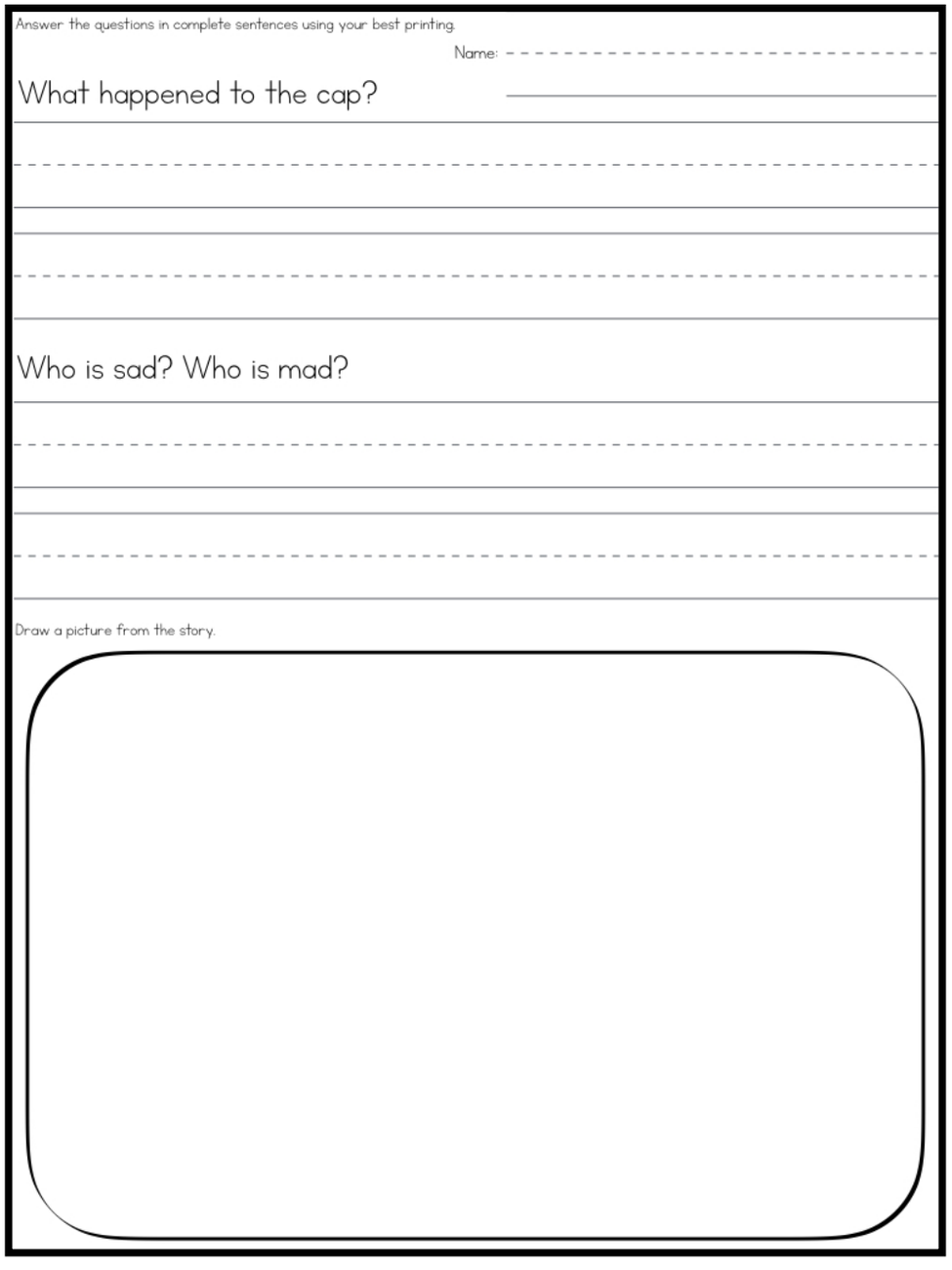
Sight word practice that corresponds to the story and previously taught sight words

Two comprehension questions for each story (Oral & Written)

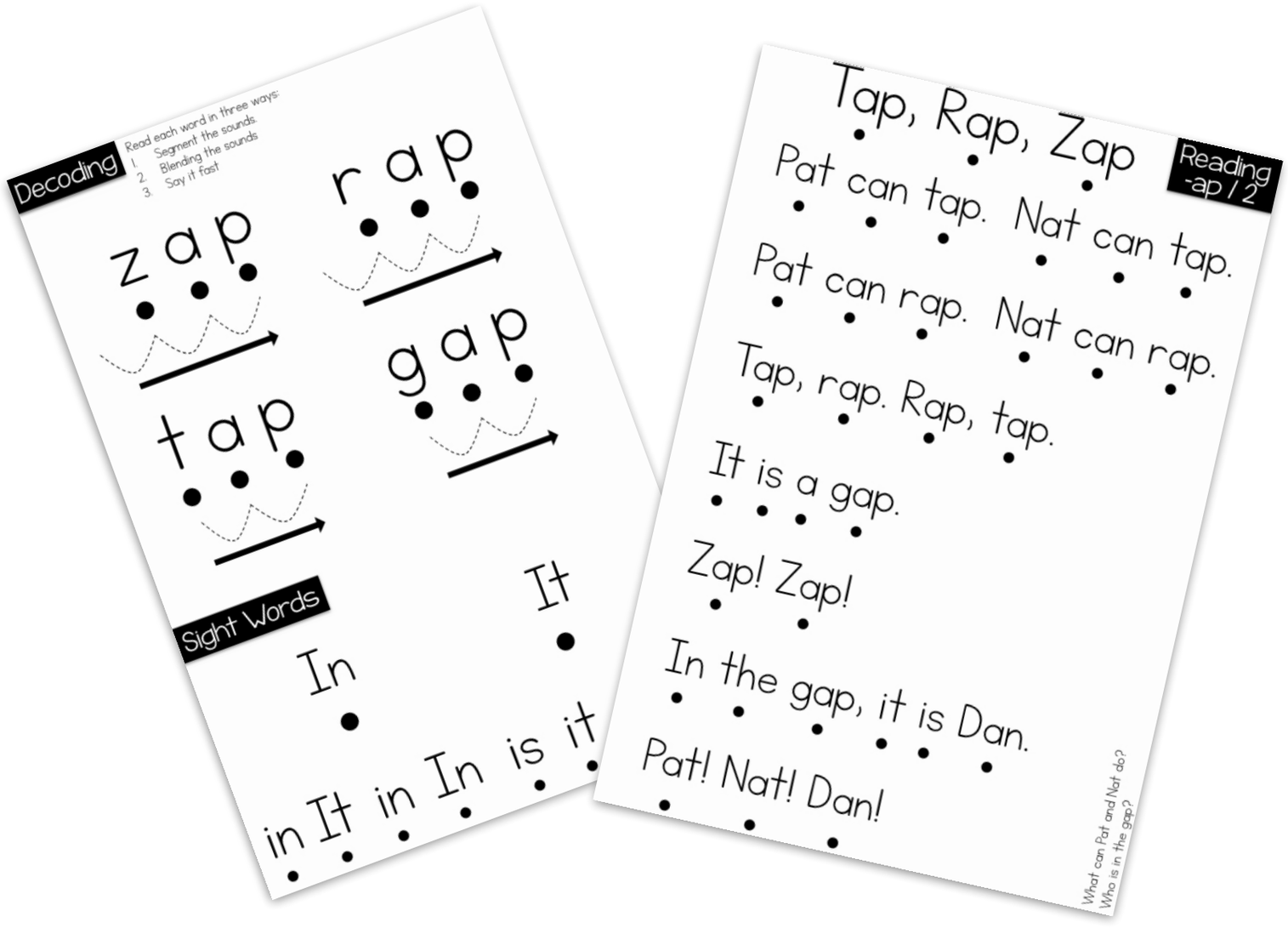


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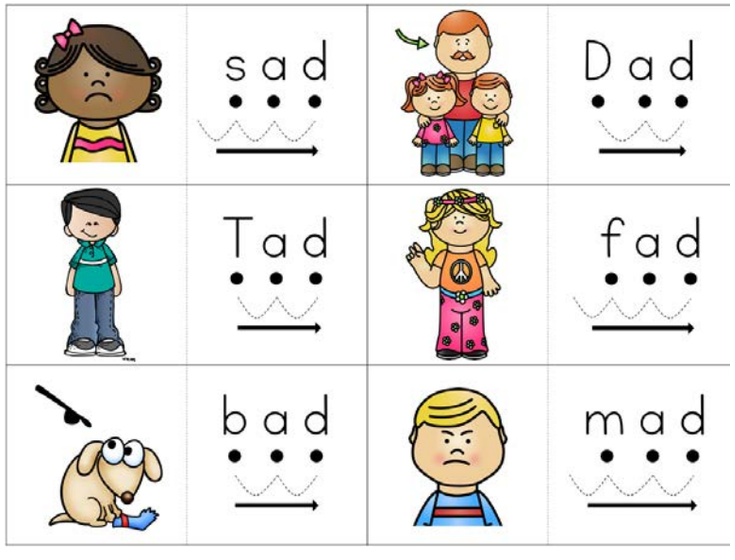
Comprehension Page
Writing and Drawing Space

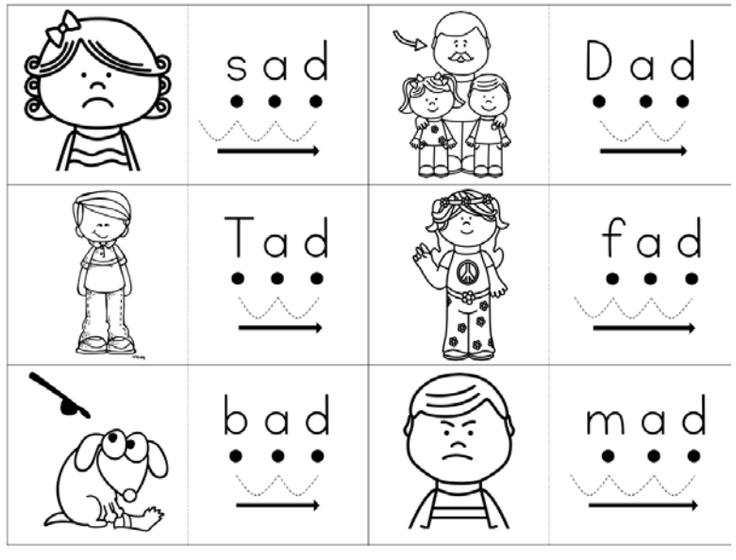


Fold the page in half to present the word work side to students before reading. Then flip the page over and have students read the story after practicing the words. Or cut the page in half and glue the pages in a composition book to create a practice reader.



Blending Cards for the phonics and sight words in each set of readers. Cards come in color and black & white for most images. Cut on the solid line and fold on the dotted line to create a flash card.





Word Family Phonics Readers
Short a Word List

There are three passages for each word family. Below are the list of words for each word family as well as the sight words that appear in that set of stories. Not all words appear in every story, but all the words will appear in at least one of the three stories for that word family.
The most frequently appearing words are practice on the decoding page.

-at	-an	-ap	-ad	-am	-ag	-ab
bat cat fat hat mat Nat pat Pat rat sat	can Dan fan man pan ran van Jan an (an is not used until the -ap stories)	cap gap lap map nap rap tap zap	bad dad fad had mad pad rad sad Tad	bam ham jam Pam ram Sam	bag (not until -ab stories) gag lag nag rag Rag tag wag	cab dab jab lab nab tab Tab
Sight Words	Sight Words	Sight Words	Sight Words	Sight Words	Sight Words	Sight Words
a I	the is	in it	on	to has	or and	he she

Decoding

Read each word in three ways:

1. Segment the sounds.
2. Blending the sounds
3. Say it fast

c a t



f a t



m a t



s a t



Sight Words

a



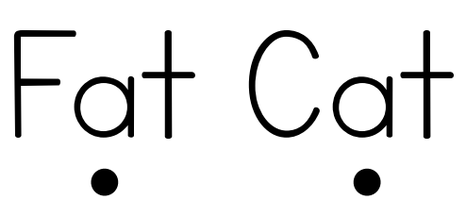
I



a a I I a I a I I a



Fat Cat



Cat.

A fat cat.



Fat cat sat.

A mat.



Fat cat sat mat.



Fat cat sat hat.



A fat cat sat.



Where did the cat sit?
Tell about the cat.

Reading
-at / I

Fat Cat

Reading -at / I

Decoding

Read each word in three ways:

1. Segment the sounds.
2. Blending the sounds
3. Say it fast

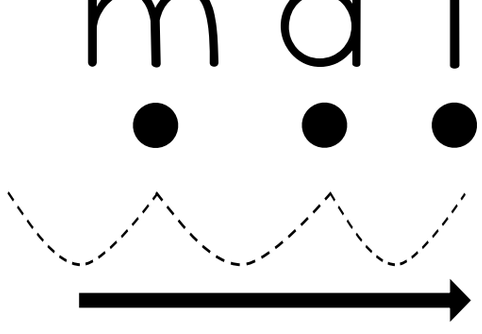
c a t



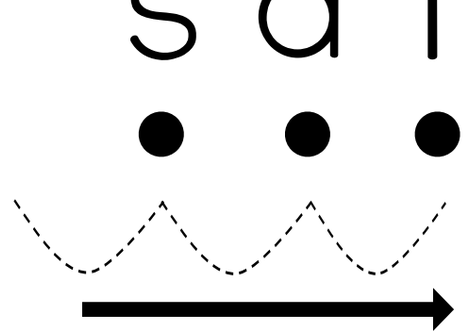
f a t



m a t



s a t



Sight Words

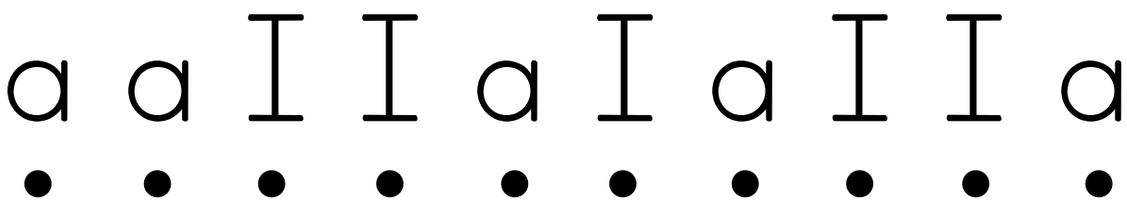
a



I



a a I I a I a I I a



Cat.

A fat cat.

Fat cat sat.

A mat.

Fat cat sat mat.

Fat cat sat hat.

A fat cat sat.

Where did the cat sit?
Tell about the cat.

Answer the questions in complete sentences using your best printing.

Name: _____

Where did the cat sit?

Tell about the cat.

Draw a picture from the story.