

Shelly's Big Race



A Soft C Decodable Book • Level 3 • 1st Grade



Shelly stood at the line for the big race. The race went twice around the lake, and Shelly wanted first place.



Jill hopped up to her. "This race will be a cinch," said Shelly. "We will see," said Jill with a grin.



The race started, and Shelly ran off as fast as she could. She passed Jill and all the others by the white fence.



But she ran too fast, too soon.
Her side started to hurt, and
her face got hot and red. One by
one, the others ran past her.



Jill hopped far up the path. Now
Shelly was in last place. "I will
not stop," Shelly said. "I will
just keep an even pace on this
lap."



On lap two, Shelly did not rush, and she did not rest. Step, step, step. The others got tired, and she passed them one by one.



Bit by bit, the gap to Jill got small. At the end, Shelly crossed the line first, by just an inch!



"That was a nice race," puffed Jill. "You never gave up." Shelly smiled. "From now on, I will run that way from the start."

Words in This Book

Focus skill

Soft C (c says /s/ before e, i, y): cent, city, ice

Soft C words

race, twice, place, cinch, fence, face, pace, nice

High-frequency words

the, and, to, a, said, she, was

Other story words

Shelly, stood, at, line, for, big, went, around, lake, wanted, first, Jill, hopped, up, her, this, will, be, we, see, with, grin, started, ran, off, as, fast, could, passed, all, others, by, white, but, too, soon, side, hurt, got, hot, red, one, past, far, path, now, in, last, I, not, stop, just, keep, an, even, on, lap, two, did, rush, rest, step, tired, them, bit, gap, small, end, crossed, inch, that, puffed, you, never, gave, smiled, from, run, way, start

Talk About It

1. Where did the big race go around?
2. Why did Shelly fall to last place?
3. Who crossed the line first at the end?

Read It Again

Read the book again. Point to every word from the Soft C list. How many can you find?