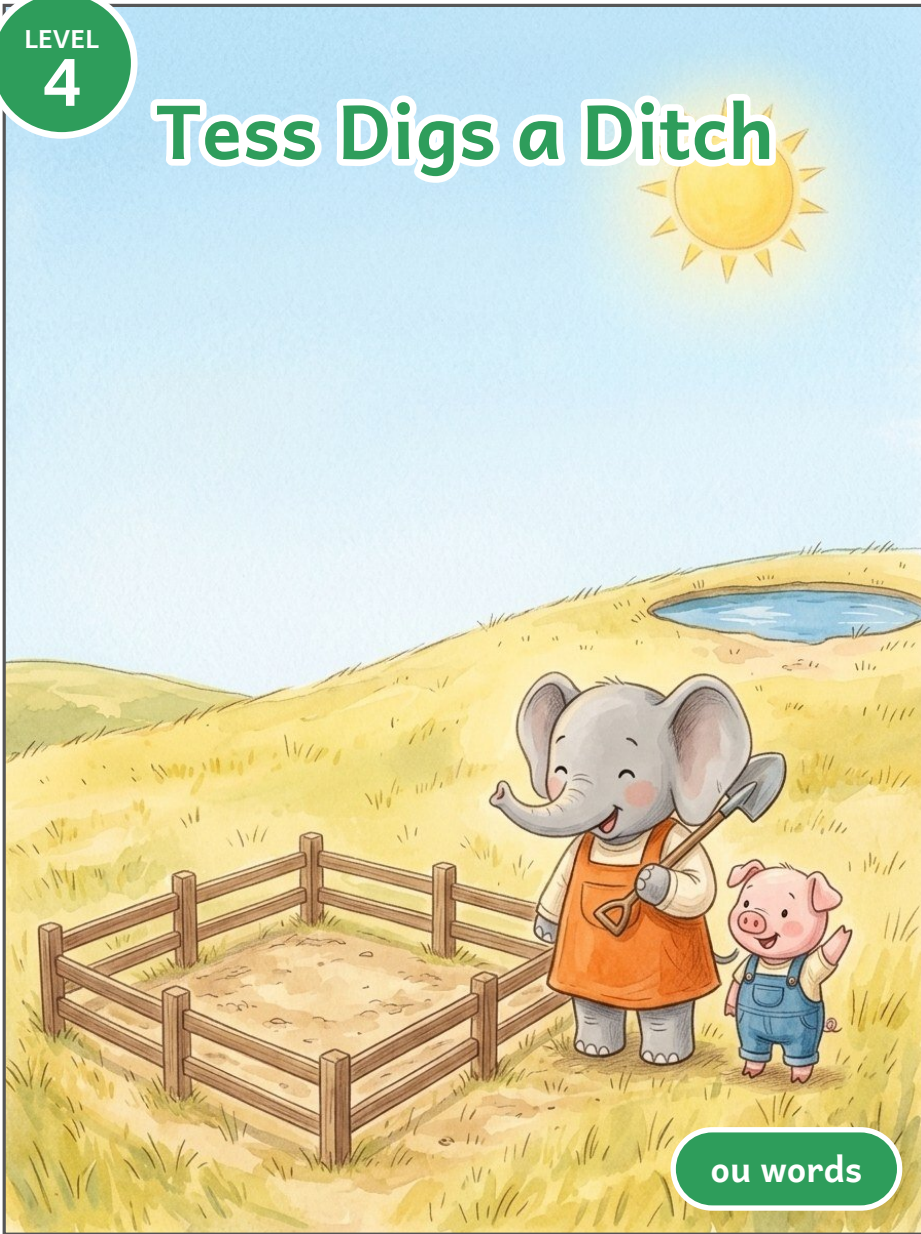


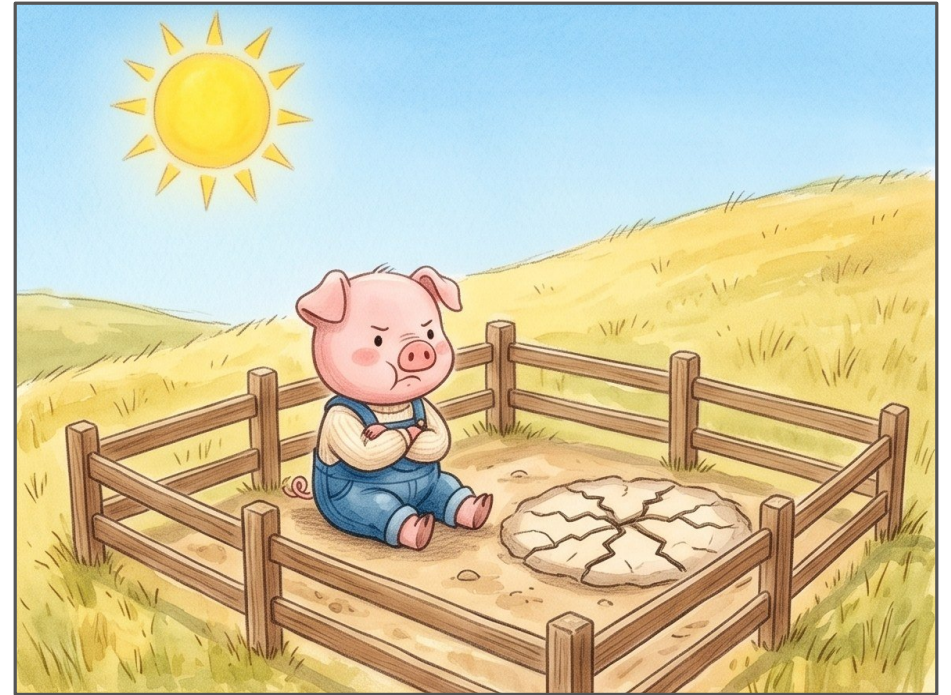
Tess Digs a Ditch



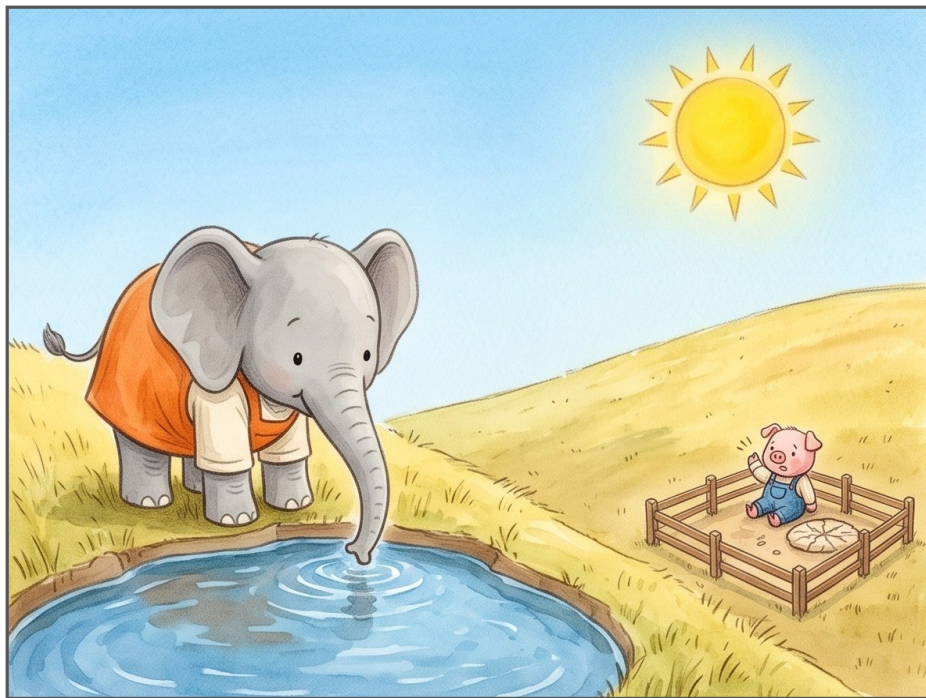
ou words

A Diphthong — OU Decodable Book • Level 4 • 1st–2nd Grade

Printable Scholar Readers



The sun was hot, and not one cloud came by to block it. Pip the pig sat in his pen and huffed. The sun had baked his mud spot until it was like stone, and it had cracked.



"I am so hot," Pip said. "I want some mud!" Tess heard him from the pond. "I can help," she said. She dunked her trunk in the pond and filled it up.



Then she ran down the hill to the pen as fast as she could. But on the way, most of it dripped out of her trunk. When she got to Pip, she could blast out only a drip or two.



They fell on the dust and were gone. Tess went back again and again. She lost count of her trips. Still, the mud spot did not get wet. Pip let out a sad little sound. Tess sat down to think.



"My trunk is too small," she said. "But I am big, and I can dig!" She started to dig a long ditch from the pond down the hill. But she did not dig out one clump of sand at the bank.



It held the pond back. Her huge legs went pound, pound, pound. She pushed the sand into a long mound on each side. At last, the ditch went all the way to Pip's pen.



Tess pulled the last clump of sand out of the bank. Out came a big gush! It ran down the ditch, round the bend, and into the pen. It filled the old cracked spot and made a big new mud hole.



Pip jumped in with a shout, and Tess jumped in too. Mud got into her mouth, and she laughed. "Now this is our mud spot," Pip said with a grin. Tess was very proud.

Words in This Book

Focus skill

OU diphthong

Diphthong — OU words

cloud, out, count, sound, pound, mound, round, shout, mouth, our, proud

High-frequency words

the, was, and, to, it, said, she, a, they, is, with

Other story words

sun, hot, not, one, came, by, block, Pip, pig, sat, in, his, pen, huffed, had, baked, mud, spot, until, like, stone, cracked, I, am, so, want, some, Tess, heard, him, from, pond, can, help, dunked, her, trunk, filled, up, then, ran, down, hill, as, fast, could, but, on, way, most, of, dripped, when, got, blast, only, drip, or, two, fell, dust, were, gone, went, back, again, lost, trips, still, did, get, wet, let, sad, little, think, my, too, small, big, dig, started, long, ditch, clump, sand, at, bank, held, huge, legs, pushed, into, each, side, last, all, pulled, gush, bend, old, made, new, hole, jumped, laughed, now, this, grin, very

Talk About It

1. What did Pip the pig want?
2. What did Tess dig to bring water to Pip?
3. Who jumped into the new mud hole at the end?

Read It Again

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Read the book again. Point to every word from the