

# A Steam Train

Power Reader  
14



Reading Consonant Blends Group 4



*Dedicated to children everywhere...*

To all whom you meet, be truthful and kind.  
Make the right choices, and good things you'll find!  
Love others and smile - let your best actions lead.  
Have fun, and have faith, and learn how to read!

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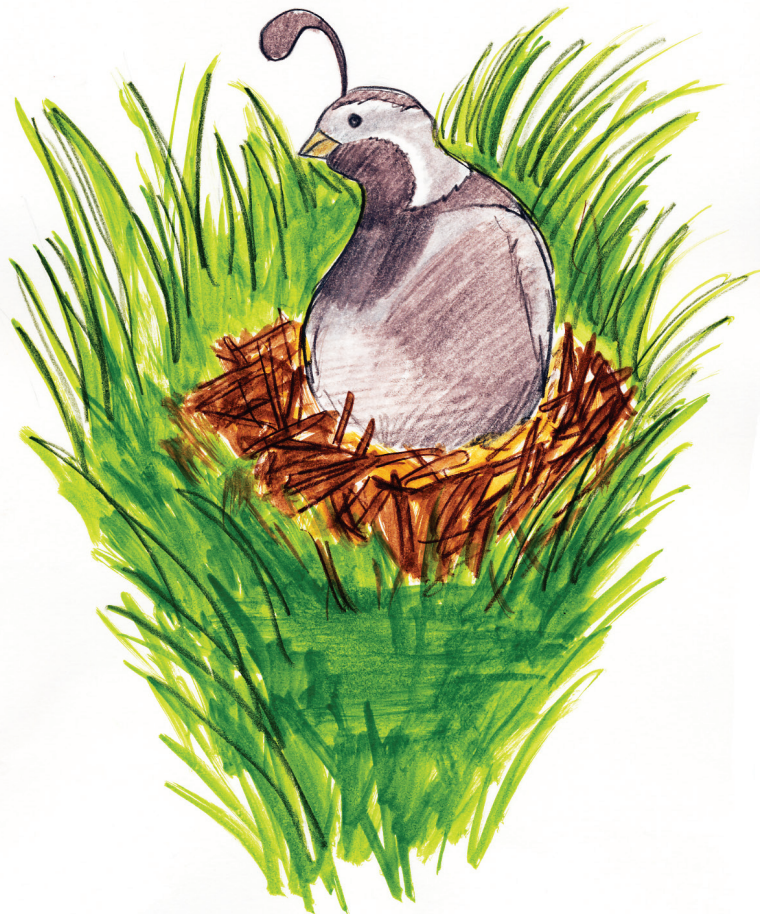
# A Steam Train



Written by Gary and Victoria Beck

Illustrated by Joel Van Gundy

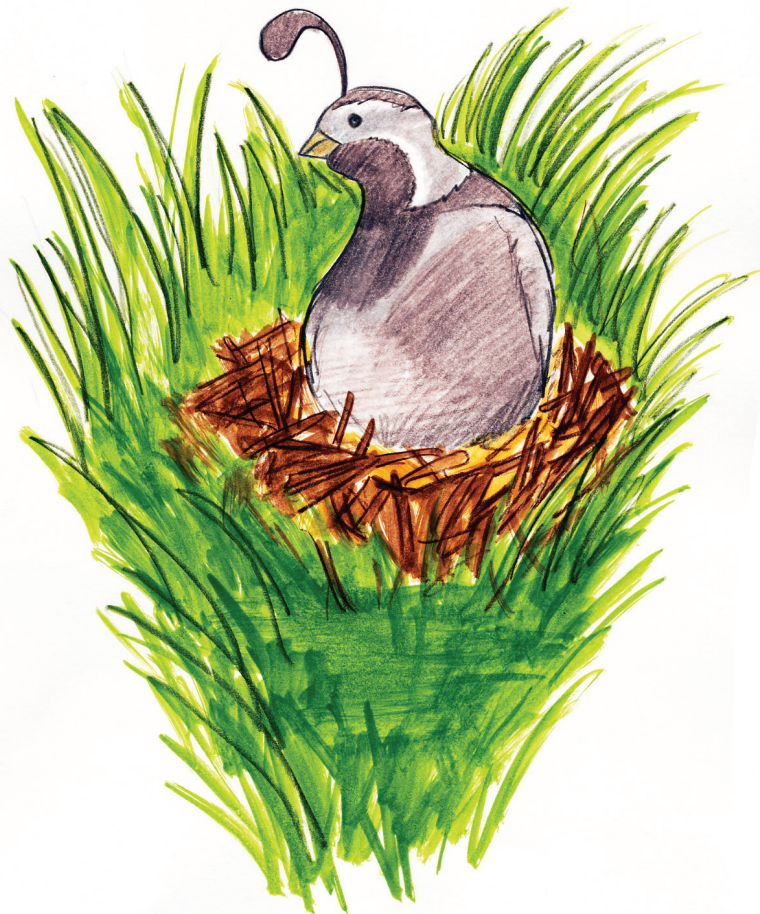
An Expeditions to Excellence Book



**Look there! Can you see? A quail is in her nest. The nest is made of twigs and grass.**



**The nest is next to the big, green tree. The quail must like it there. She must feel safe in her nest.**



**Look there! Can you see? A quail is in her nest. The nest is made of twigs and grass.**



**The nest is next to the big, green tree. The quail must like it there. She must feel safe in her nest.**



The big tree is next to a wide, steep trail. People like to hike up the trail in the crisp, clean air.



Sometimes, people sit and rest on the trail. They stop and splash some cool water on their faces. They clean the dust off of their skin.



**The big tree is next to a wide, steep trail. People like to hike up the trail in the crisp, clean air.**



**Sometimes, people sit and rest on the trail. They stop and splash some cool water on their faces. They clean the dust off of their skin.**



As they sit and rest, the people ask, "What is that? Do you hear something?"

Chug, chug, chug. A steam train comes from the west.



The train moves quite fast on the track. Up the steep hill it moves.



As they sit and rest, the people ask, “What is that? Do you hear something?”

Chug, chug, chug. A steam train comes from the west.



The train moves quite fast on the track. Up the steep hill it moves.





The train moves past the people,  
and the tree,  
and the nest,  
and the quail.



Steam puffs from its engine. In a  
flash, it streaks past and leaves  
its smell in the breeze.



The train moves past the people,  
and the tree,  
and the nest,  
and the quail.



Steam puffs from its engine. In a  
flash, it streaks past and leaves  
its smell in the breeze.



Boys, girls, men and women fill its seats, in a rush, to get to special places. They move fast in the train. They see the people and things on the trail.



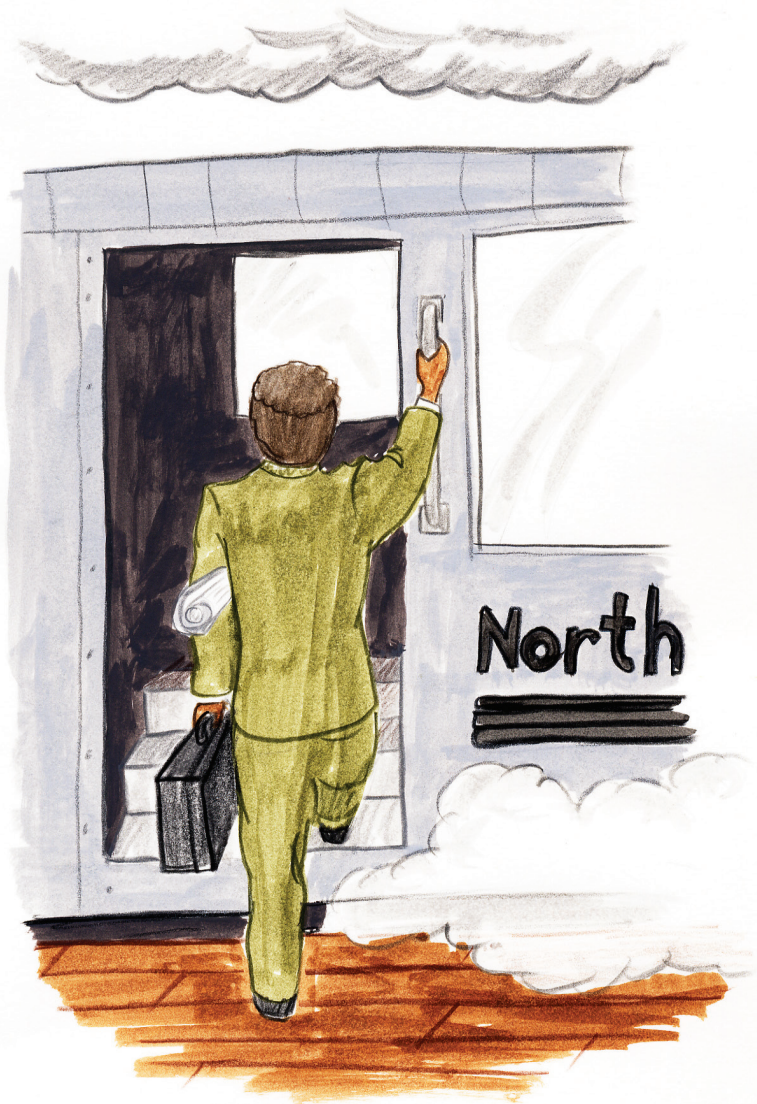
This man waits for the train.



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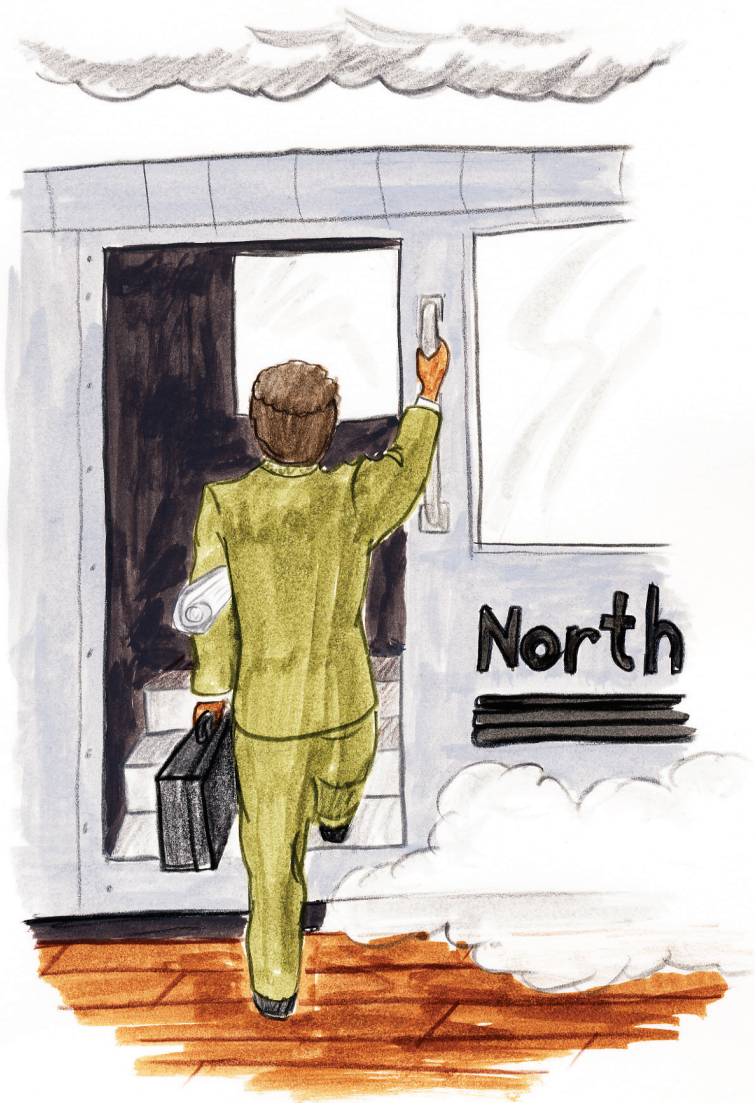
This man waits for the train.



The big steam train will screech to a stop. The man will get on to ride it.



Then, the train will move on and on. Chug, chug, chug.



The big steam train will screech to a stop. The man will get on to ride it.



Then, the train will move on and on. Chug, chug, chug.

# Conversation Station

A Place to Talk and Smile

## Comprehension (discussion with reader)

1. What is in the nest next to the big, green tree?
2. Why do people who are hiking on the trail splash water on their faces?
3. How do the people know that the train is coming?
4. Who waits for the train in the story?

## Conversation Time

1. Have you ever taken a ride on a train? Trains used to take people all around the country when they needed to travel, especially before airplanes were invented. Many people still ride trains today, to go on trips or to go to work each day.
2. There are many kinds of trains. Some trains transport people. They are called passenger trains. Some trains transport supplies and heavy equipment. They are called freight trains.
3. The kind of train in this story has a steam engine. Steam engines are no longer used today. Instead, trains use electricity and diesel fuel to make them run.

## Sequencing

Draw a line to the numbers to show the order in which these things happened in the story. Can you remember? (If you prefer, you can point to them.)



1

2



3

4



# Expeditions to Excellence™ Reading Award

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reader's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I have also read this book to  
these people too! They have  
signed their names here:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



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