

The New Sleigh



You're reading with

the giraffes!

Reading Irregular Vowel Combinations
with "e"



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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... providing a chance for every child.®

The New Sleigh



Written by Gary and Victoria Beck

Illustrated by Joel Van Gundy

An Expeditions to Excellence Book



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Jill stepped outside and sank deep into the snow. Her skin was chilled. She saw her breath in the air.



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“Hey Mom!” Jill called. “Let’s use the new sleigh today!”



Mom smiled and nodded.

“Honey,” she said, “I would love to do that.”

Jill and her mom put on some coats. They grabbed some hats.



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They walked in the deep and drifted snow until they reached the shed in back of their home. Mom pulled the sleigh from the shed and asked Jill to get the horse.



Jill helped Mom tie the horse to the sleigh. The horse stomped his feet and neighed. He wanted to go for a ride.



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They jammed into the small seat. Mom held the reins in her hands. Jill kept her hands tucked in her sleeves. Off they went!



With a tug and a bump, the horse trotted ahead of the beautiful sleigh. Sleigh bells added some winter magic to the ride. The horse crossed the road and headed for the trails.



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They rode over the hills and across a bridge. Jill had packed a hot drink. She and Mom sipped it to get rid of the chill.



They stopped at the lake. Mom smelled smoke in the air from a fireplace. It made her think of home.

“Let’s go back now,” said Mom.



They rode over the hills and across a bridge. Jill had packed a hot drink. She and Mom sipped it to get rid of the chill.



They stopped at the lake. Mom smelled smoke in the air from a fireplace. It made her think of home.

“Let’s go back now,” said Mom.



Mom pulled on the left rein and the horse spun around. He headed back the other way and trotted home.



At home, Jill and Mom sat by the fire and read a book together. Then, it was time for Jill to get in bed. She kissed Mom and went to sleep. It had been a great day for Jill, with Mom and the new sleigh.



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Conversation Station

A Place to Talk and Smile

Comprehension (discussion with reader)

1. What did Jill want to do with her mom?
2. What did Jill and her mom put on before going outside in the cold weather?
3. What did Mom smell in the air when they stopped at the lake?
4. What did Jill and Mom do after they returned home from their sleigh ride?



1

2

3

4

Conversation Time

1. What do you like to do on a cold day? Have you ever taken a ride in a sleigh? Do you know anyone that rides in a sleigh?
2. Can you imagine a world without cars? How was life different when people needed to use horses and sleighs to get around?
3. The horse in this story doesn't have a name. If this horse were yours, what would you name him? Why?



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.)

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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