

Reading Words with Short "a"



You're
reading
with...



the antelope!

Getting Ready - A Broad View of the Landscape Before You Begin



Let the reading begin! Your reader has mastered the fundamentals that will successfully launch the reading process. Now it's time to sharpen those basics on our phonics safari! Prepare for this expedition by turning to page 39 in *The Reading Place*, entitled "Reading Words with Short 'a'". The top of each word list in this section features a box with the blended sounds of "a" that your reader has **already** mastered. Explain that those sounds can be turned into words simply by adding a new beginning letter. As you help your reader blend the words on each list aloud, remember the guidelines for blending words. Always blend letters with as few breaks as possible. Use your finger to help your reader "glide" through the word - never "hop" from one letter sound to the next. Try to teach two lists of words per session. For example, master all of the "at" words and "an" words before moving on to "ag" words. This pace may vary among children, but choose a reasonable pace for your child to begin the process. When all of the short "a" words have been mastered, teach the sight words included in the section for short "a". When you teach the sight words, keep in mind that sight words are not intended to be sounded out. They are to be learned, by sight, and committed to memory. Your reader does *not* have all of the skills to actually sound out all of the sight words, but will need to master them in order to read the book included in this expedition. Your safari mate will then be ready to read Power Reader 1, entitled *Sam and the Cat*. Offer lots of praise to him or her for being so smart! After all, he or she is *really* reading!

About the Power Readers

The collection of Power Readers in this reading system is designed to cultivate an interest in reading, create a sense of accomplishment, reinforce phonetic concepts, and enhance reading comprehension.

The stories include *only* those words that have been mastered by the reader. He or she will quickly gain a sense of confidence reading these books to parents, siblings and friends. This reading system teaches a correct phonetic approach. Your reader will be able to easily decipher new words, once he or she has mastered all 26 Power Readers and "graduates" to other reading material, because all of the necessary and basic concepts for reading will have been learned.

Inside of the back cover of each Power Reader, is Conversation Station. This section provides topics for discussion, comprehension questions and a special sequencing activity. Be careful not to overlook or skip this important part of the learning process. An assortment of topics are introduced, many of which are central to any school-aged child's understanding.

Take time working through The Power Readers with your safari mate. Select a time of day when your reader is alert, focused, and not distracted by other things. Always choose comfortable, well-lighted areas in which to work together. Don't feel compelled to finish a book all in one sitting. The reader's ability will help to set the pace. Encouraging his or her progress is quite different than pushing the reader into more than he or she is able to do. Success will come with patience, perseverance and praise!



Taking a Closer Look - Sample Dialogue to Help Direct Your Course

Tour Guide: "Listen carefully: cat, hat, mad, lap, pan. All of these words have the short 'a' sound. You're going to learn to read all of the short 'a' words today, because you are at the antelope level now! And, what's even *better*, is that you are going to read your first power reader on this expedition! I'm so proud of you!"



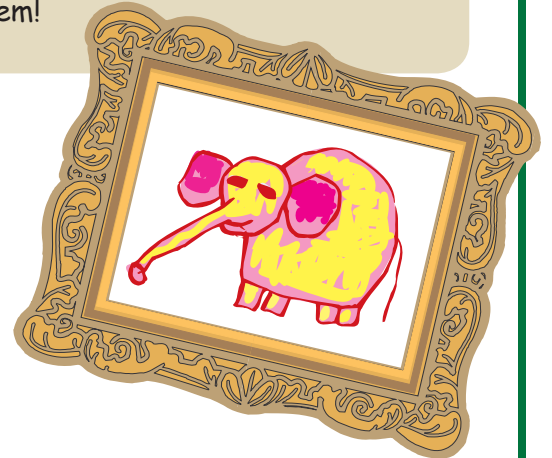
Reader: "I can't wait to read the first book!"

Tour Guide: Blending words is just like blending sounds. (The Tour Guide shows the reader the word list.) Do you see the sounds in the box at the top of this list? These are the sounds you have already blended with short 'a'. Now, we're going to add a consonant in front of each sound and magically turn each sound into a word. I'll help you do the words the first time, and then you can do them on your own. When we're all done, we'll be able to read this book. It's called *Sam and the Cat*."

More Fun... for Friends

Creations of Excellence!

As your safari friend masters each level of reading, encourage him or her to make clay creations of each animal. A great sense of accomplishment will grow as your reader sees his or her display of jungle animals grow alongside a growing ability to read. Of course, alternatives to clay creations are your little artist's illustrations of the mastered jungle animals featured at each reading level. Display them proudly in a prominent area of the learning environment. Don't forget to ask your miniature Rembrandt to autograph them!



Antelope are very fast runners. They need to be fast to escape from other animals that prey on them (hunt them in order to eat them), such as hyenas, wild dogs, lions and cheetahs.



What You'll Need to Pack for the Safari



You will need *The Reading Place* (pages 39-43), Power Reader 1, entitled *Sam and the Cat*, energy, enthusiasm and encouragement.

Results to Achieve During Your Expedition



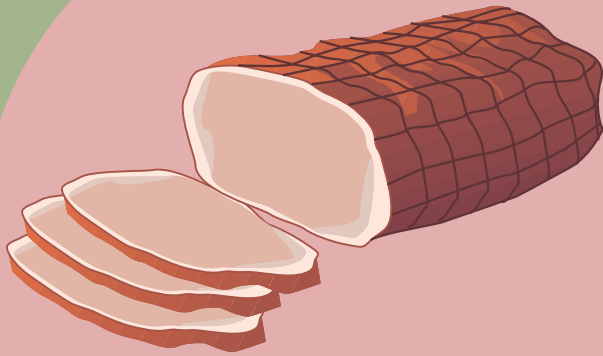
The reader will read all of the words containing the short sound of "a", the sight words and the practice sentences which are listed in *The Reading Place* on pages 39-43, and will read Power Reader 1, entitled *Sam and the Cat*.

Jungle Journal

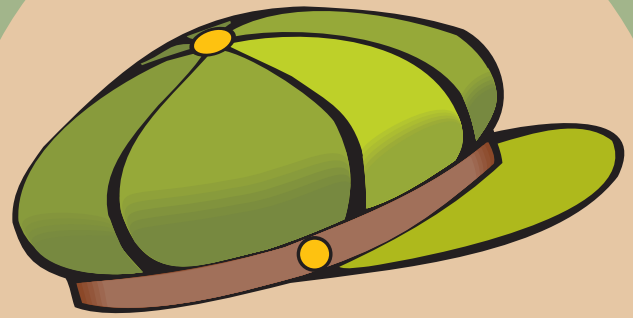
Accomplished with Excellence	Expedition Activities:
	Reader reads "at" words correctly
	Reader reads "an" words correctly
	Reader reads "ag" words correctly
	Reader reads "ad" words correctly
	Reader reads "ap" words correctly
	Reader reads "ab" words correctly
	Reader reads "as" words correctly
	Reader reads "am" words correctly
	Reader reads "ax" words correctly
	Reader reads sight words for Power Reader 1 correctly
	Reader "makes tracks" with practice sentences on page 43 of <i>The Reading Place</i>
	When all items are mastered on this expedition, it is time to read Power Reader 1
	Reads Power Reader 1, entitled <i>Sam and the Cat</i>
	Completes <i>Conversation Station</i> at the back of Power Reader 1
	Reader completes Funsheets (instructions to be read by Tour Guide)
	Reader places a sticker or draws a star on the Safari Success Trail poster, in space number 14



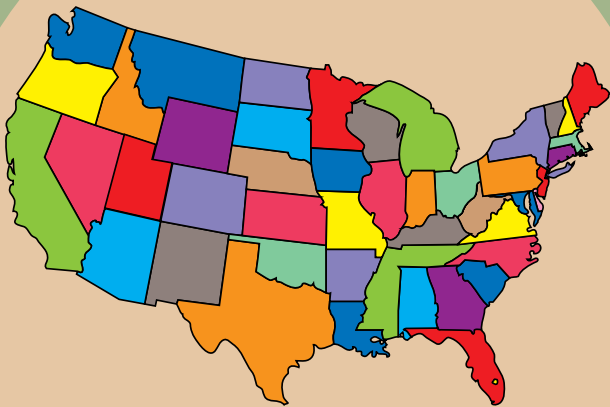
Read both of the words below each picture. Circle the word that goes with the picture shown. Read the word you have circled.



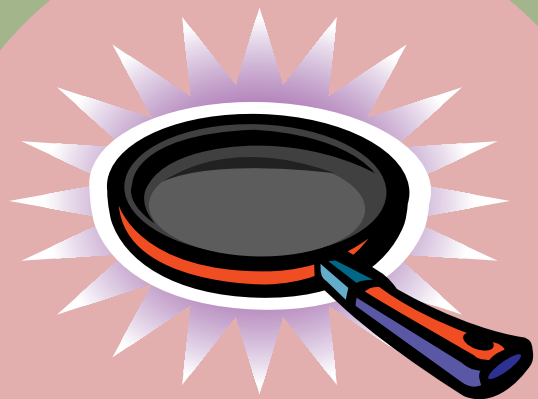
ham mad



cap can



mat map



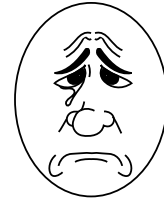
pan nap

Draw a line from the word to its picture.

hat



fan



cat



man



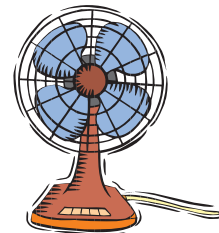
van



bag



sad



Read the sentence. Choose the correct picture. Circle it.

The man sat.

