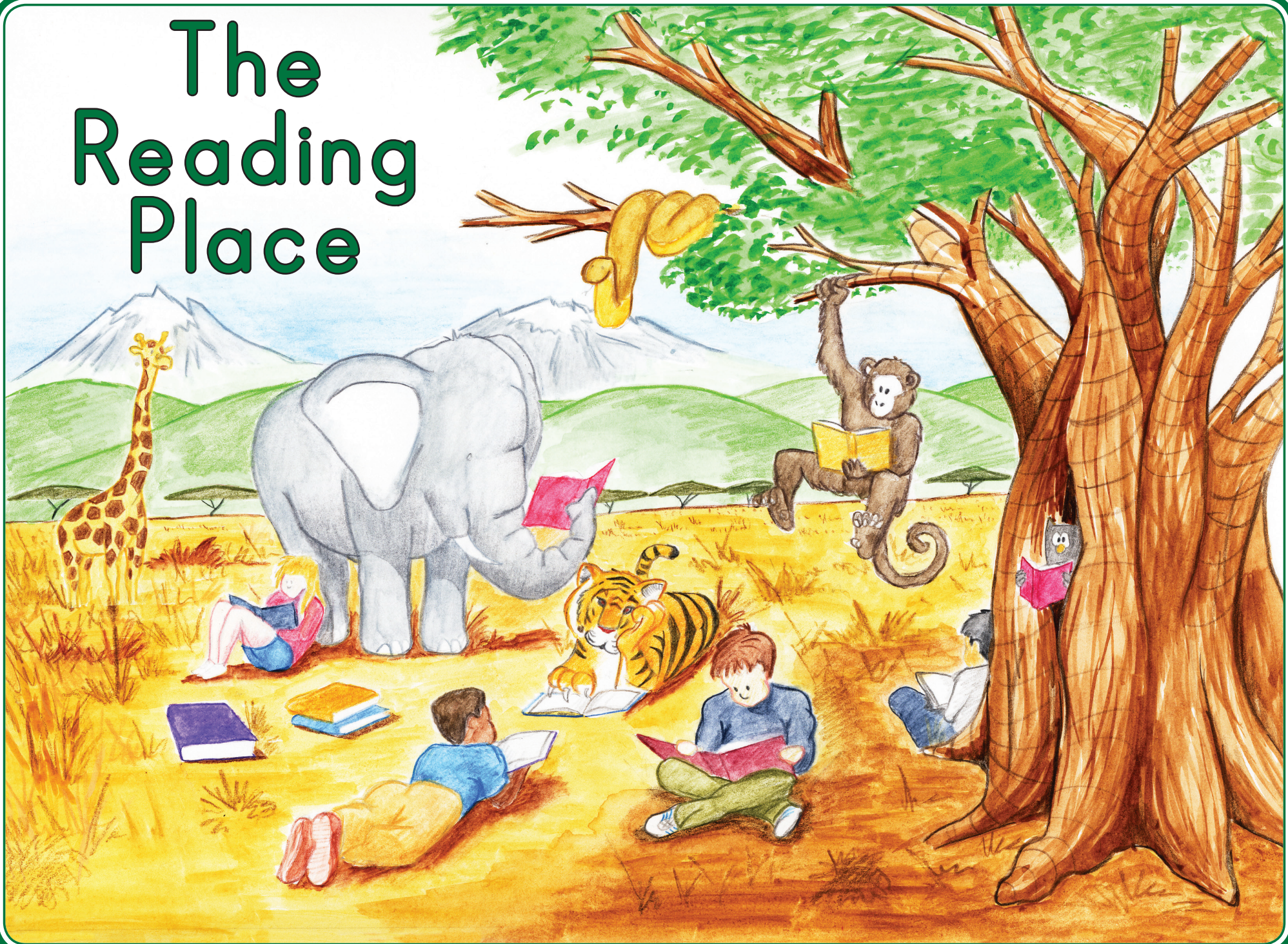


# The Reading Place



# Welcome to The Reading Place!



Come to the wise old baobab tree  
And sit by its side, where the shade is free.  
Our mighty green tree grew from a seed,  
(You'll grow the same way as you learn to read.)  
In the very beginning, some things might seem slow,  
But lots of great words you will soon come to know.  
Reading will make your confidence strong,  
And your love for good books will be lifelong.  
So, come along now; you'll soon be a reader.  
(You'll quickly find out that you're also a leader.)  
Come gather 'round this fine Reading Place.  
Begin with a smile and a bright, happy face!  
We'll make this time count (and have lots of fun, too).  
Everyone here is so proud of you!  
I will be here to help you and guide -  
So, let's read together now - side-by-side.

~ Victoria Beck

# Blending Sounds with Short "a"



*For Use with Reading Expedition*

9

The Tour Guide says...



You know the letters - *every one!*

Learning can be so much fun!

A job well done - right from the start.

I can tell that YOU are smart!

Short "a" says "aaah". Keep listening to Audio Guide Lessons 1, 2, 3 and 4!

at

an

ag

ad

ap

ab

as

am

ax

Remember to blend sounds smoothly. Use your running finger! The sounds should not be broken or disjointed. Track 31 of the CD provides examples of how to blend sounds.

As each list is mastered, ask your reader to sound out the blends in random order as you point to each one.

Mastered 

Mastered 

Mastered 

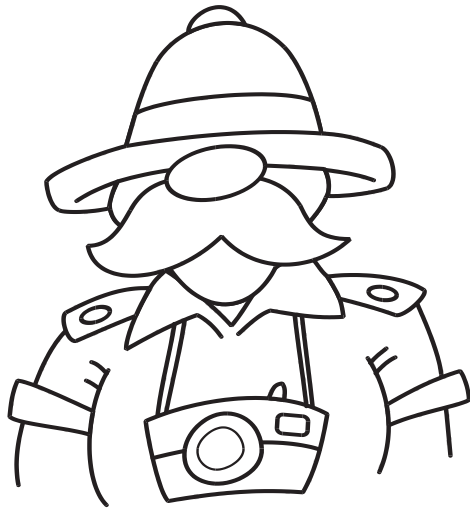
# Blending Sounds with Short "e"



*For Use with Reading Expedition*

*10*

The Tour Guide says...



Come along and blend some sounds!  
Soon, you'll read by leaps and bounds!  
Six "e" sounds for you to know,  
Get ready, set...now, let's go!

What does the short "e" say? "eh". Audio Guide Lesson 5 will help you blend!

eg

el

em

en

es

et

Before you begin, it may be helpful to cover up the "e" in each of these blends and review the sound of each consonant. Then, blend the sound of the short "e" ("eh") with each consonant sound, making sure that the new, blended sound is smooth and continuous.

Mastered 

Mastered 

# Blending Sounds with Short "i"



*For Use with Reading Expedition*

*11*

The Tour Guide says...



Come and sit - pull up a chair,  
Let's get ready; let's prepare!  
Keep your blending finger flowing,  
Turn the page and let's get going!

The sound of the short "i" is "ih".

im

ib

ip

id

ig

it

il

in

ix

iss

Here's a fun idea to try. There are ten blends to master with the short "i" sound. After mastering them here in *The Reading Place*, write the blends on your reader's fingernails in washable marker. Then, write them on your fingernails, too. As you call the blends out, ask your reader to find that blend and touch their matching finger to yours!

Mastered 

Mastered 

Mastered 



# Blending Sounds with Short "o"



*For Use with Reading Expedition*

*12*

The Tour Guide says...



Once you've learned to smoothly blend  
Your reading skills will have no end!  
Try these "o" sounds - concentrate!  
You're doing well! You're doing great!

What does short "o" say? It says the sound heard in ostrich! Listen to the sound demonstrated for you in Audio Guide Lesson 4.

ob

ot

od

og

ol

os

on

op

om

ox

Listening to the "Long and Short Sounds" song on track 6 of the CD is a good way to review the sounds of all of the vowels. Remember, the long vowels sound just like the names of the letters - a, e, i, o, u. The short sounds are a little trickier, but you can learn them easily. Listen to the song together and sing along!

Mastered 

Mastered 

Mastered 

# Blending Sounds with Short "u"



*For Use with Reading Expedition*

*13*

The Tour Guide says...



Look how far you have progressed!

Who would have known? Who would have guessed?

One more blending group to go...

Then your skills will grow and grow!

(You're a star!)

The sound of short "u" is "uh".

ul

un

ud

uf

ut

ug

ub

um

up

us

uz

The short "u" sound is the sound of the bee "buzzing" around. Pretend you are that bee - "buzz!" Perhaps that bee can land on each of these blends as your reader learns them.

Mastered 

Mastered 

Mastered 