

## Word Reading 21 Decodable Text

### Tay on the Trail

"It's not raining," Dad said.  
"We can hike on the trail."  
Gail asked, "May we take Tay?"  
Tay was their dog.

They walked on the trail.  
Tay left the main path.  
Gail could see his tail.

"Don't go far, Tay," Gail called.  
Tay barked.  
Did he spy a snake?

No, it was a plain old snail.  
"Wait, Tay!" Gail called.  
Tay didn't stay.  
He just barked more.

Did Tay spot a skunk?  
No, it was a jay.  
"This way, Tay!" Gail called.  
Tay still went off the trail.

Tay barked more.  
Oh, my! What was it this time?  
It was a gray cat.

Gail said, "Tay, you're such a pain.  
The trail isn't a place to play.  
Next time, you'll stay home!"

### Long a Spelled ai

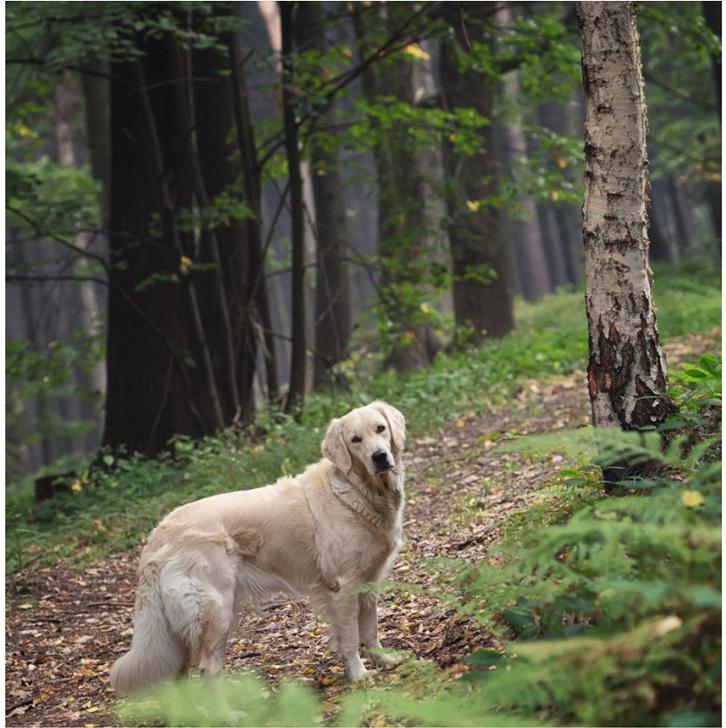
trail, raining, Gail, main, tail, plain, snail, wait, pain

### Long a Spelled ay

Tay, may, stay, jay, way, gray, play

### High-Frequency Words

the, said, was, their, they, could, do, a, old, oh, what, you, to



## Critter Trail

It had rained and rained for days.  
Jay and Gail had waited a long time to hike.  
The first of May seemed to be a good day for it.

Jay laid out his trail map and called to Gail.  
"The west trail is the best way to go," he said.

"Oh, wait!" Gail said. "That west trail is so plain.  
With the rain, there are roses on the main trail.  
I say we take the main trail."

"Then you must play a game with me," Jay said.  
You must play Spot That Critter."



That's just what Jay and Gail did on that May day.  
They played Spot That Critter on the main trail.  
They spotted five quails and a horse munching hay.  
They spotted nine gray snails at a hole filled with rain.  
They spotted a white and black tail, too.  
That tail was on a skunk! Yikes! Run!

### Long a Spelled ai

trail, rain(ed), Gail, wait(ed), laid, plain, main, quails, snails, tail

### Long a Spelled ay

day(s), Jay, May, way, say, play(ed), hay, gray

### High-Frequency Words

a, to, the, of, good, out, said, oh, there, are, you, what, they, horse, too, was

## My Family's Pets

My family's pets do funny things.  
The pets' tales my family tells are lots of fun.

Liz tells about her puppy, Sam.  
Sam is a black lab puppy that sings.  
Sam can bark the notes and tap his tail.  
Sam's songs go on and on and on.  
If Sam ever stops singing, Liz will worry!

Dan has twin cats, Muff and Puff.  
Dan's cats run so fast!  
They chase from place to place all day.  
They like to play with Dan's old socks, too.  
Dan fills the socks with catnip.

Liz's bird, Brainy, is big and gray.  
Brainy likes to sit on his perch and talk.  
We tell Brainy silly jokes about birds.  
Then he tells them back to us.  
We get a kick out of that!

Yes, my family's pets are funny.  
But that's the way we like them!

### Singular Possessive

family's, Sam's, Dan's, Liz's

### Plural Possessive

pets'

### High-Frequency Words

family, do, the, are, of, about, a, ever, worry, they, from, to, old, too, out



## Jay's Ranch

At Jay's family ranch, it is hot and dry.  
It has not rained there for days.  
Jay must worry about his dog, horses, and pigs.

If it rains, Jay will save rain in a big pail.  
Jay's pail has pipes to drain the rain.

Day after day, Jay waits for rain.  
"Will rain come on this gray day?" he asks.  
Plop, plop, plop! Big drops start to fall.  
This rain stays for the next two days.

Rain fills Jay's big pail to the top.  
Now Jay can drain rain from his pail.  
Jay fills his dog's water dish.  
Next he fills his pigs' pails.  
Then Jay fills his horses' pails.

At last, it is Jay's turn to drink!  
Jay fills a big glass for himself.  
This is the main way Jay uses rain.

### Singular Possessive

Jay's, dog's

### Plural Possessive

pigs', horses'

### High-Frequency Words

family, there, worry, about, horse, a, to, the, come, two, now, from, water

