



31st January 2023

Dear Parent / Carers

Phonics Screening Check

As you may already be aware children in year 1 and children in year 2 who did not pass their phonics screening check last year will carry out their reading assessment in June. The phonics screening check is a statutory reading check that all year 1 children take during a particular week in June. The check is designed to assess if each child has reached the age appropriate standard of decoding by the end of year 1.

The check is completed by the child on a 1:1 basis with a teacher. It usually takes 5-10 minutes for the child to complete. However, there is no time limit and the child can take as long as they need. The teacher can also allow the child a rest break if it is necessary. The children will have worked on similar activities in their phonics lessons and will be familiar with the format. The only difference will be that the teacher will be unable to help the children on this occasion.

What does the check consist of?

The check contains 40 words - 20 real and 20 pseudo words (nonsense words). The words are presented to the child in the form of a booklet with 4 large words per page. The words gradually get more difficult from 2 and 3 'sound' words such as 'it' and 'vap', to longer words with more complex 'sounds', such as the a-e sound in the word 'same'. The nonsense words are presented with a picture of an alien. This tells the child that this word will not make sense to them. It will instead be the name of the kind of alien. This has been added so that the child does not attempt to turn the words into real words.

It is expected that, by the end of year 1, children are able to recognise the grapheme-phoneme correspondences up to the end of set 3 (Read Write Inc sounds), segment words (split into sounds) and blend them back together to be able to read them. For the last few years, the expected standard for the screening check has been set at 32 out of 40 words correctly decoded. However, this can change and the Department for Education does not release the 'pass' mark until a few weeks after the children have completed the check. Children who do not meet the expected standard in year 1, complete the check again in year 2.

How can you help?

- The most important thing you can do, to help support your child with their reading, is to read with them. Listening to your child read is important but reading to them is just as important. If they hear you read, they are hearing how to pronounce unfamiliar words and are developing new vocabulary.
- Along with this letter, you will receive sound flash cards, words and practise phonics screening checks. Please access these at home regularly for short periods of time. Practise speed reading the sounds/words.

- When you listen to your child read, allow them time to attempt to decode unfamiliar words themselves, before stepping in to help them. If you find your child is struggling to decode a word, you can help by asking them to find the 'special friends' or by pointing out the sounds (not the letters) in a word. For example, the word 'keep' would be 'k-ee-p' and 'light' would be 'l-igh-t'.
- When you listen to your child read, pick out words from the book and ask them to say which graphemes/'special friends' (letters) are making a certain phoneme (sound). For example, the 'ee' sound (phoneme) in 'reaching' is represented by the letters (grapheme) 'ea'.
- If you have access to the internet, there are many free phonics games the children can play.
- Keep reading activities short. It is much better to read little and often than to read a lot infrequently!

Thank you for your continued support and please do ask your child's class teacher if you need any support with this or if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lauren Hay', written in a cursive style.

Lauren Hay
KS1 Lead Teacher

Phonics Screening Practice List

t

s

Real Words	
chain	mixer
drift	slide
pound	light
jazz	newt
brick	clown
crept	thump
fuel	drank
stroke	squawk
feeling	haystack
dolphin	morning

l

b

a

e

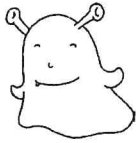
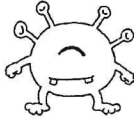






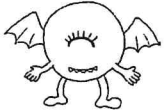
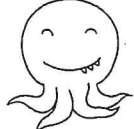
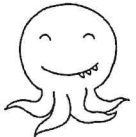
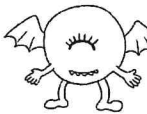

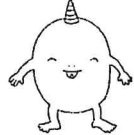




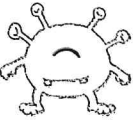

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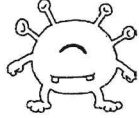




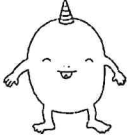

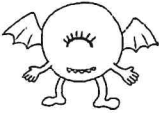
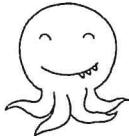
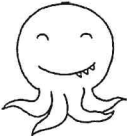
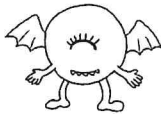

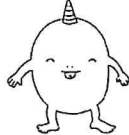




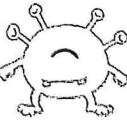

Phonics Screening Practice List

Real Words			
t	chill	blank	s
	start	scribe	
l	best	phone	b
	grit	whisk	
	shin	dentist	
a	gang	starling	e
	week	day	
	hooks	slide	
h	strap	newt	r
	trains	finger	

Phonics Screening Practice List

Nonsense Alien Words	
yoop 	lazz 
olf 	quipe 
smeck 	chirt 
jimp 	scroy 
blies 	faum 
blate 	spreet 
dox 	melp 
glisp 	shound 
cripe 	thoft 
jigh 	frue 

Phonics Screening Practice List

Nonsense Alien Words			
steck		bim	
hild		vap	
quemp		spron	
geck		blurst	
ulf		voo	
chom		snemp	
tord		fape	
thazz		jound	
blan		stroft	
tox		terg	

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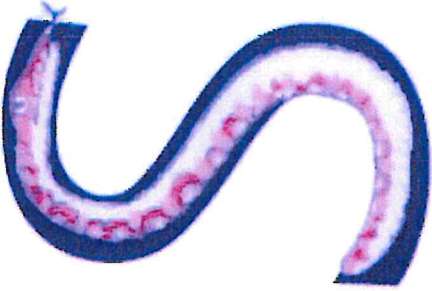
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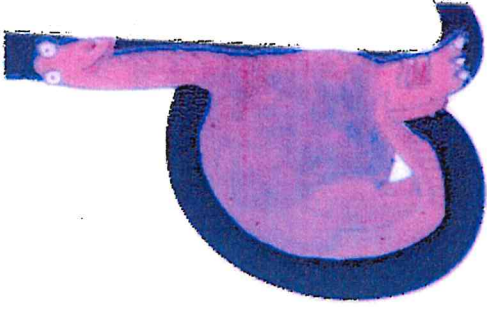
Stretch: mmmmountain
 Handwrite: Maisie, mountain, mountain



Bounce: a-a-a-apple
 Handwrite: Round the apple, down the leaf



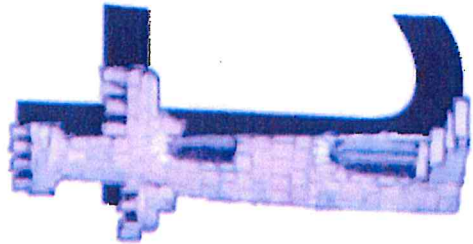
Stretch: ssssnake
 Handwrite: Slither down the snake



Bounce: d-d-d-dinosaur
 Handwrite: Round his bottom, up his tall neck, down to his feet



Bounce: i-i-i-insect
 Handwrite: Down the body, dot for the head



Bounce: t-t-t-tower
 Handwrite: Down the tower, across the tower



Stretch: nnnnet
 Handwrite: Down Nobby, over his net



Bounce: p-p-p-pirate
 Handwrite: Down the plait and over the pirate's face

r

b

f

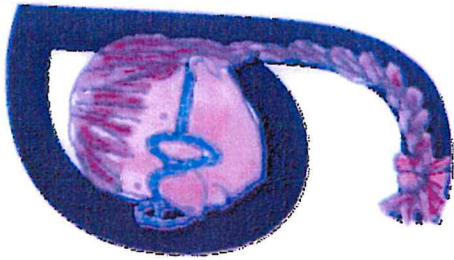
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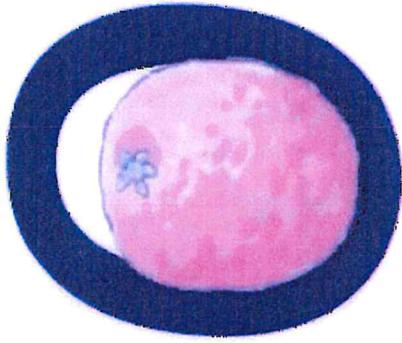
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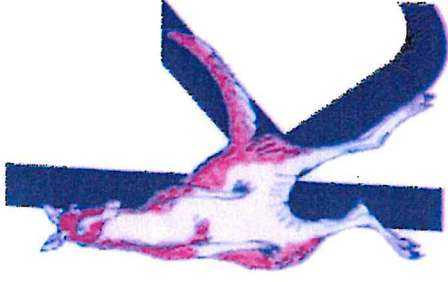
Bounce: g-g-g-girl
 Handwrite: Round her face, down her hair
 and give her a curl



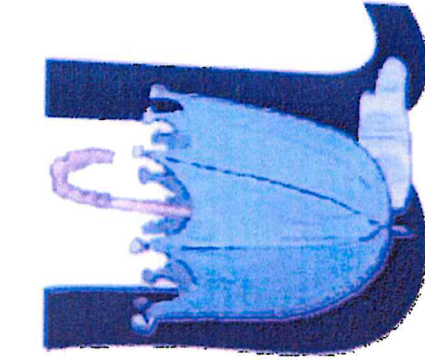
Bounce: o-o-o-orange
 Handwrite: All around the orange



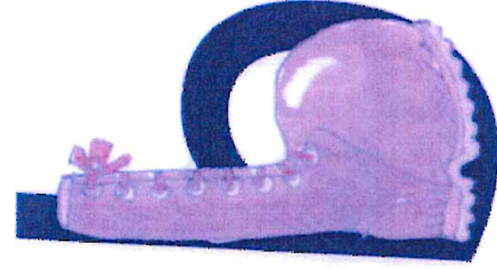
Bounce: c-c-c-caterpillar
 Handwrite: Curl around the caterpillar



Bounce: k-k-k-kangaroo
 Handwrite: Down the kangaroo's body, tail
 and leg



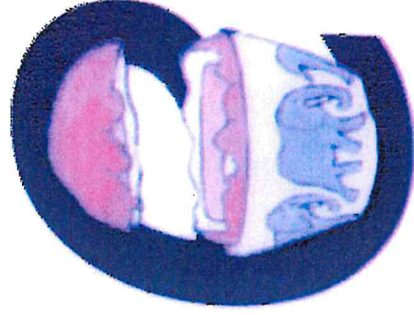
Bounce: u-u-u-umbrella
 Handwrite: Down and under, up to the top
 and draw the puddle



Bounce: b-b-b-boot
 Handwrite: Down the laces to the heel,
 round the toe



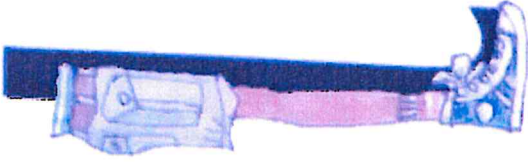
Stretch: ffffflower
 Handwrite: Down the stem, and draw the
 leaves



Bounce: e-e-e-egg
 Handwrite: Lift off the top and scoop out
 the egg

r sh h l

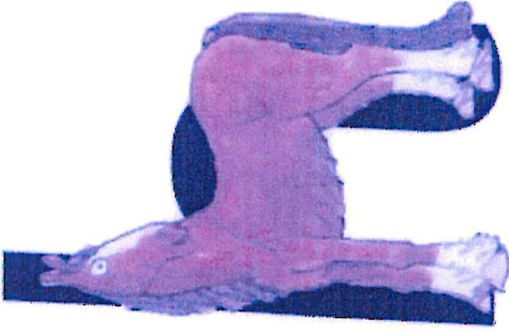
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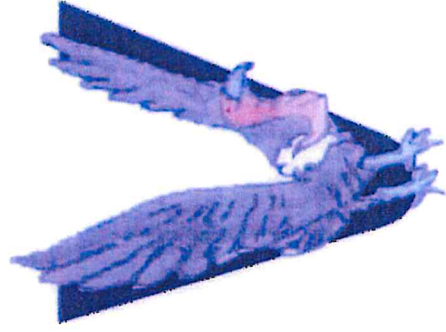
Stretch: lllllleg
Handwrite: Down the long leg



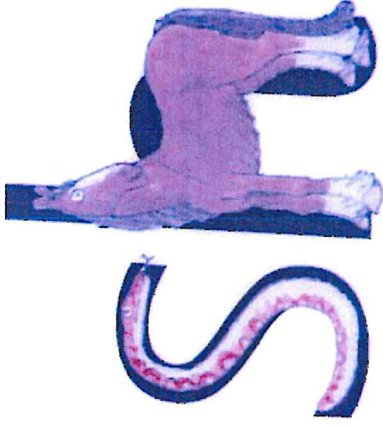
Bounce: jjjj-jack-in-a-box
Handwrite: Down his body curl and dot



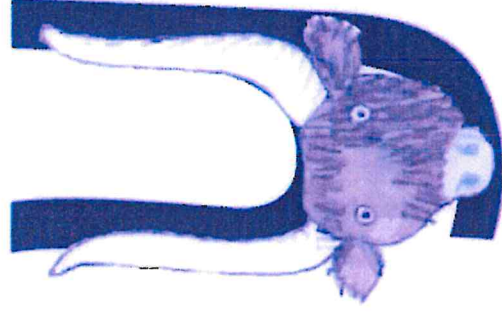
Bounce: h-h-h-h-horse
Handwrite: Down the head to the hooves
and over his back



Stretch: vvvvulture
Handwrite: Down a wing, up a wing



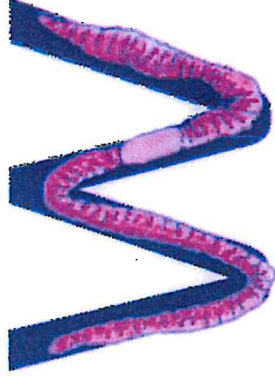
Stretch: shhhhh says the horse to the hissing
snake



Bounce: y-y-y-yak
Handwrite: Down a horn up a horn and
under his head



Stretch: rrrrrrobot
Handwrite: Down his back, then curl over
his arm



Bounce: w-w-w-w-worm
Handwrite: Down, up, down, up

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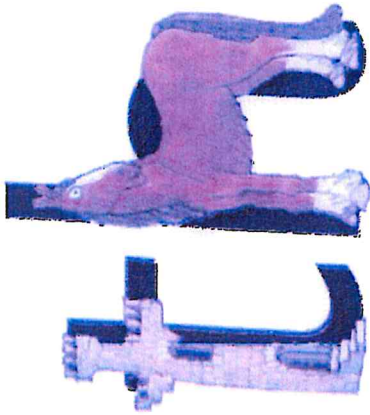
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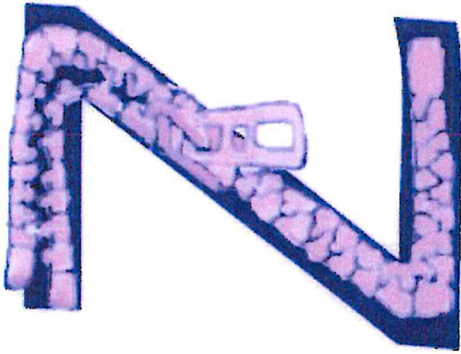
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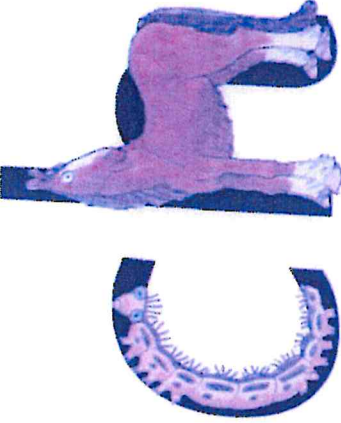
x



Stretch: thhhhh
Handwrite: The princess in the tower is rescued by the horse.
She say: thhthankyou



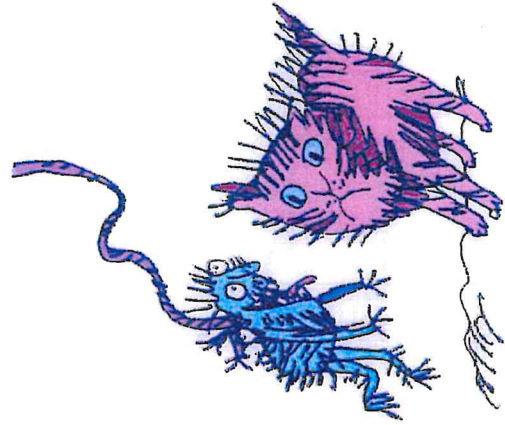
Stretch: zzzzzip
Handwrite: Zig-zag-zig



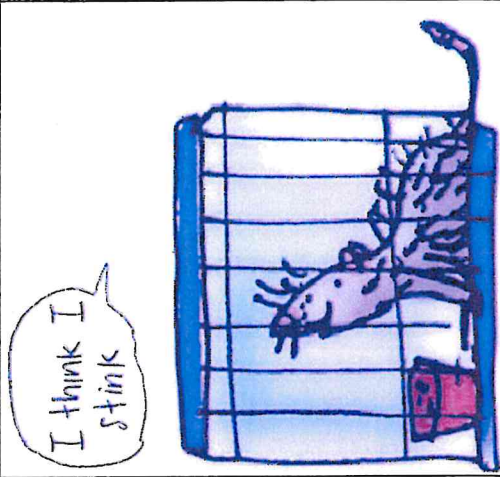
Bounce: ch-ch-ch-choo
The horse sneezes when the caterpillar's hairs get up his nose



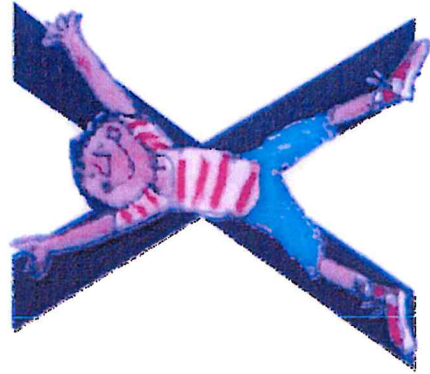
Bounce: qu-qu-qu-queen
Handwrite: Round her head, up past her earrings and down her hair



thing on a string
1. thing, ping, string, wing, sing, sang, pong, song, bang



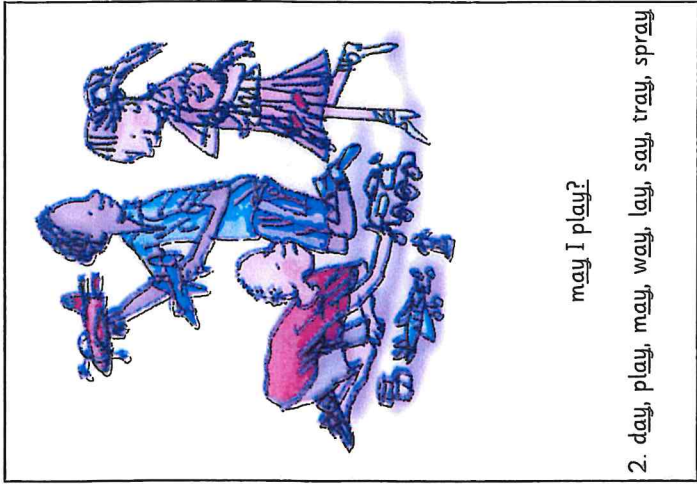
1. think, stink, wink, sink, blink, link, pink, plank, thank, sunk



Bounce: x-x-x-x-exercise
Handwrite: Down the arm and leg and repeat the other side

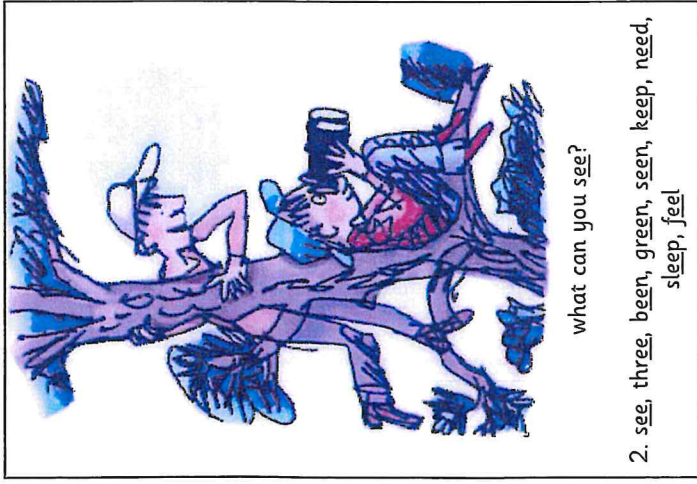
ow igh ee ay

or ar oo oo



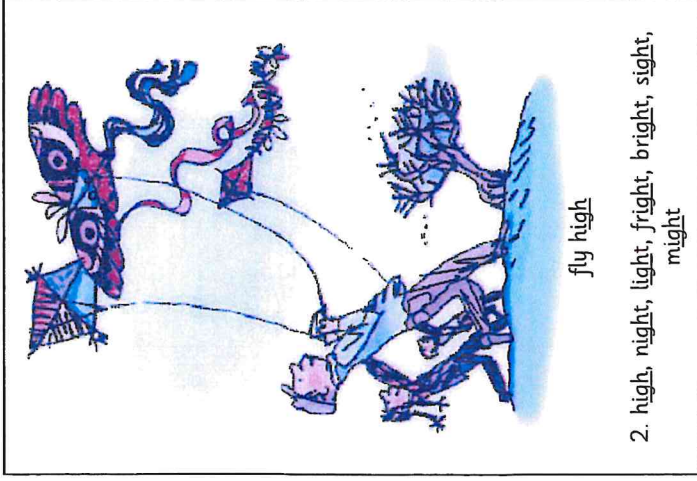
may I play?

2. day, play, may, way, lay, say, tray, spray



what can you see?

2. see, three, been, green, seen, keep, need, sleep, feel



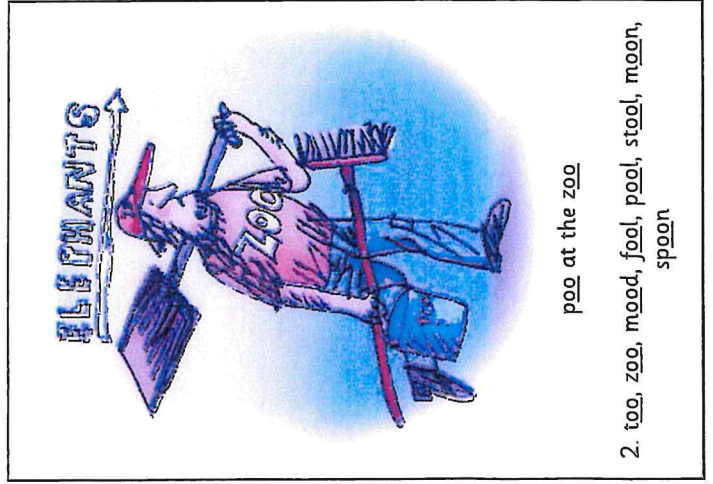
fly high

2. high, night, light, fright, bright, sight, might



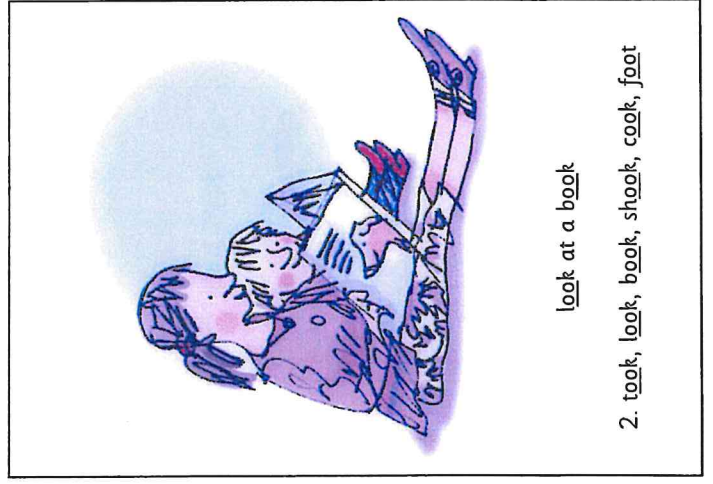
blow the snow

2. blow, snow, slow, show, know, flow, glow



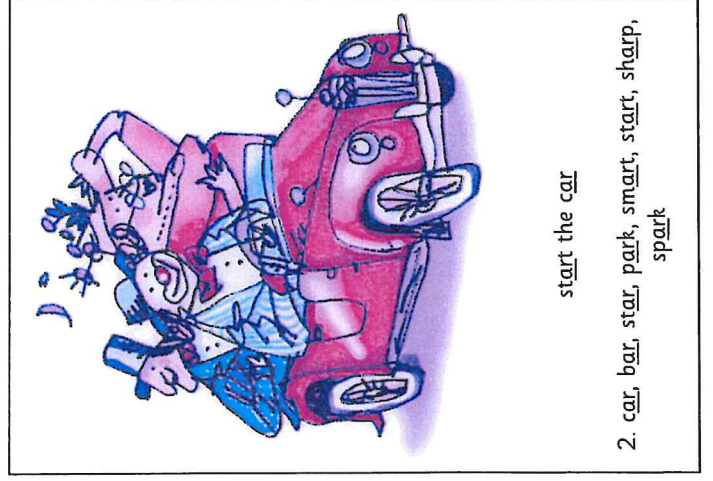
poo at the zoo

2. too, zoo, mood, fool, pool, stool, moon, spoon



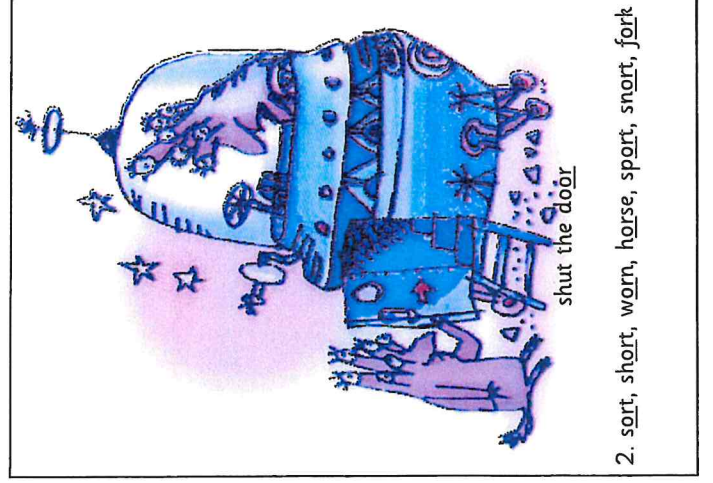
look at a book

2. took, look, book, shook, cook, foot



start the car

2. car, bar, star, park, smart, start, sharp, spark

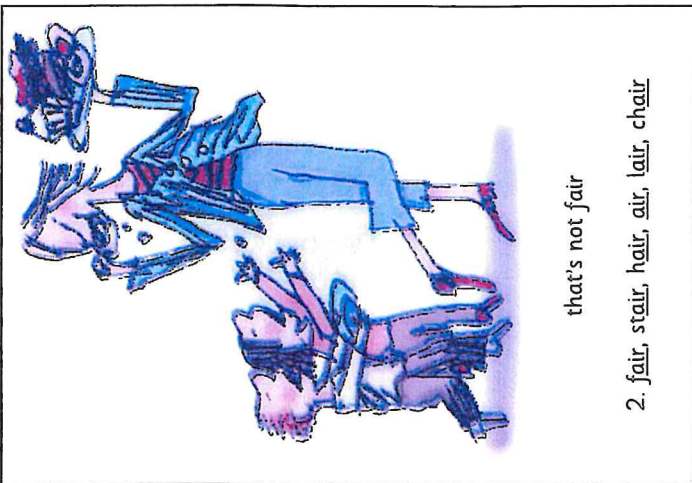


shut the door

2. sort, short, worn, horse, sport, snort, fork

oy ou ir air

or oo



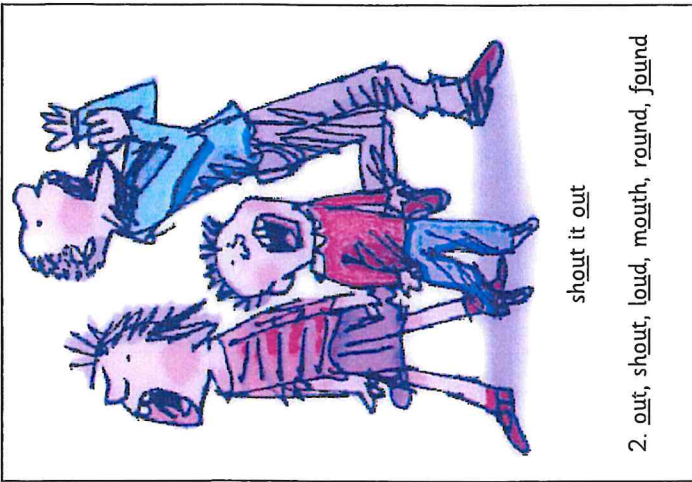
that's not fair

2. fair, stair, hair, air, lair, chair



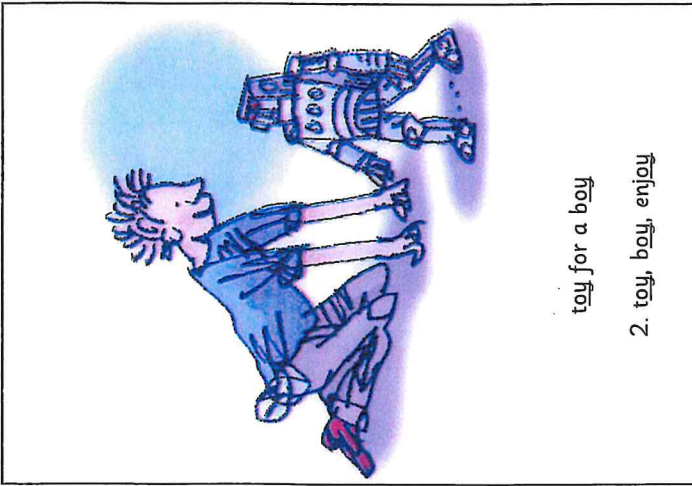
whirl and twirl

2. girl, bird, third, whirl, twirl, dirt



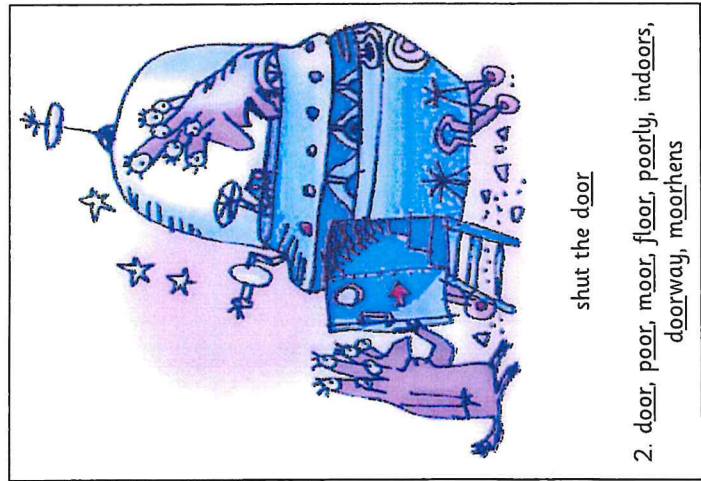
shout it out

2. out, shout, loud, mouth, round, found



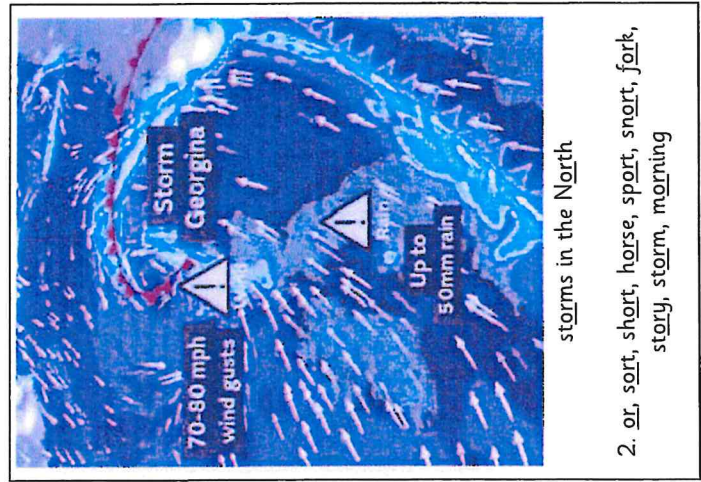
toy for a boy

2. toy, boy, enjoy



shut the door

2. door, poor, moor, floor, poorly, indoors, doorway, moorhens

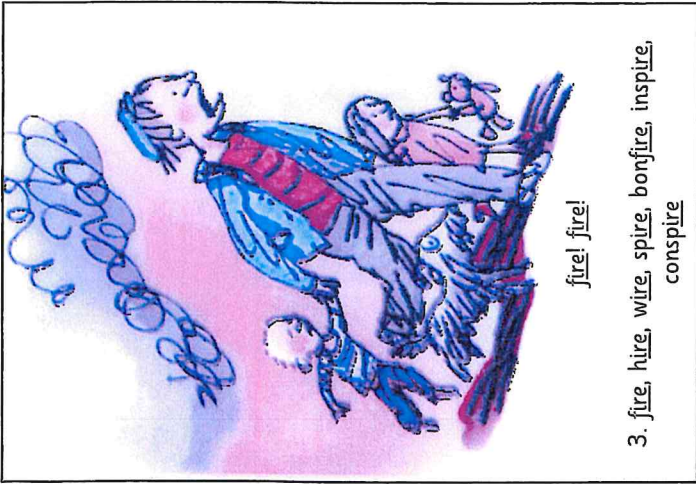


storms in the North

2. or, sort, short, horse, sport, snort, fork, story, storm, morning

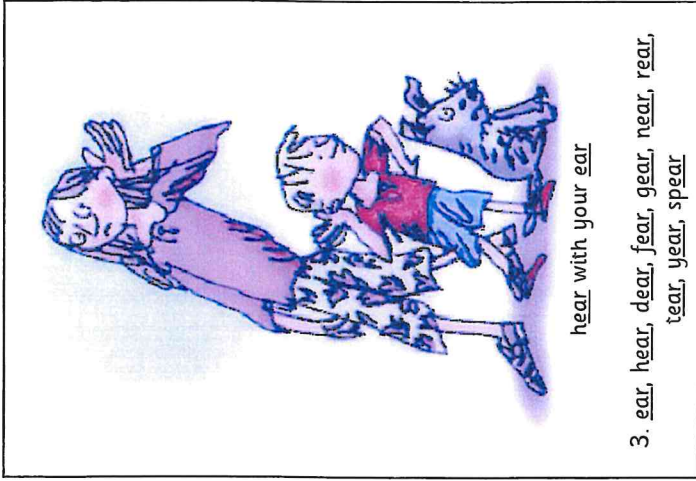
aw ure ear ire

oi ow ur are



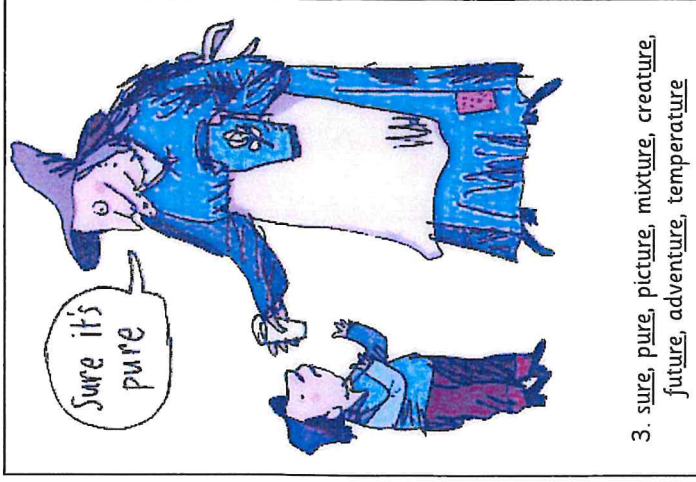
fire! fire!

3. fire, hire, wire, spire, bonfire, inspire, conspire



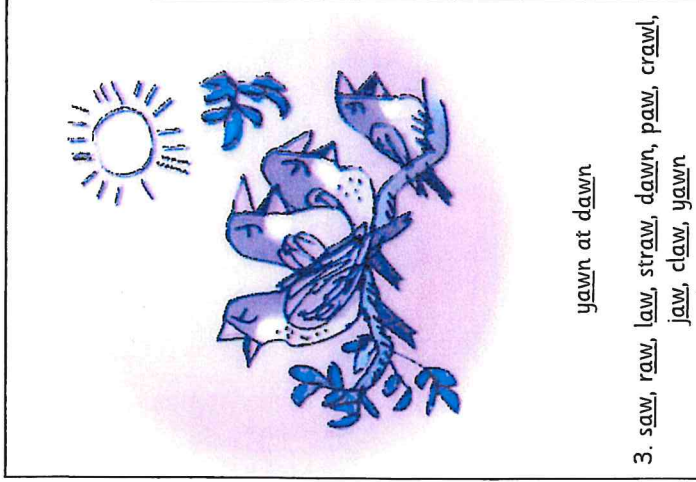
hear with your ear

3. ear, hear, dear, fear, gear, near, rear, tear, year, spear



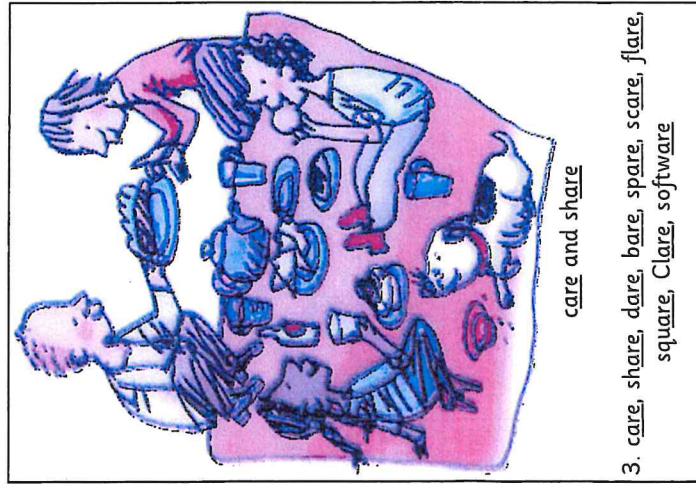
Sure it's pure

3. sure, pure, picture, mixture, creature, future, adventure, temperature



yawn at dawn

3. saw, raw, law, straw, dawn, paw, crawl, jaw, claw, yawn



care and share

3. care, share, dare, bare, spare, scare, flare, square, Clare, software



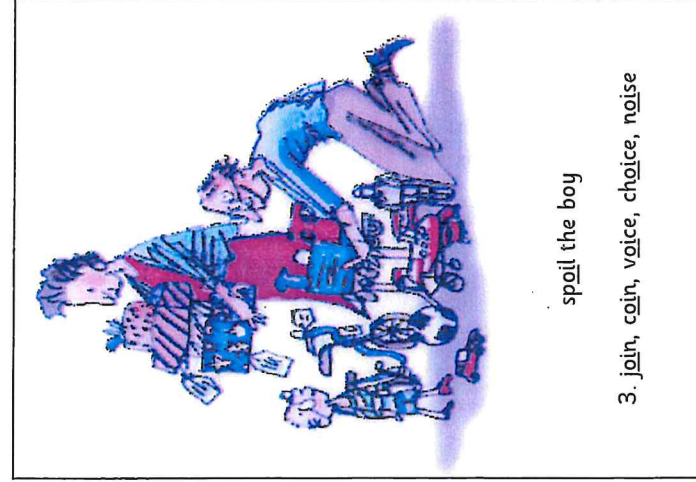
nurse with a purse

3. burn, turn, lurk, hurl, burn, burp, slurp, nurse, purse, hurt



brown cow

3. howl, how, down, brown, cow, town, crowd, drown, now, gown



spoil the boy

3. join, coin, voice, choice, noise

i-e

ea

a-e

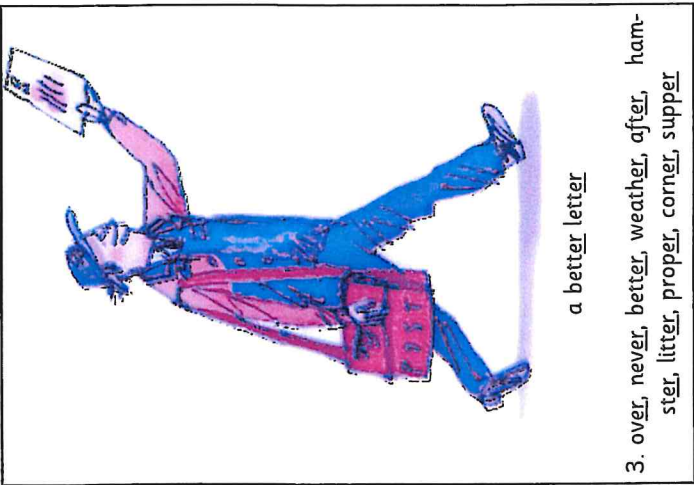
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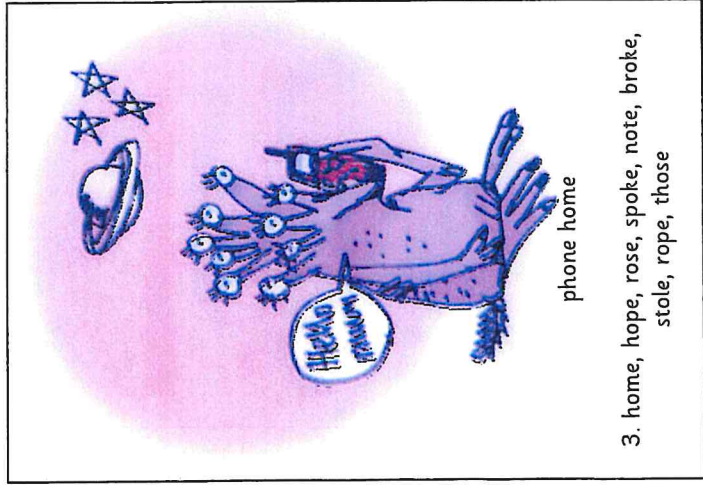
u-e

o-e



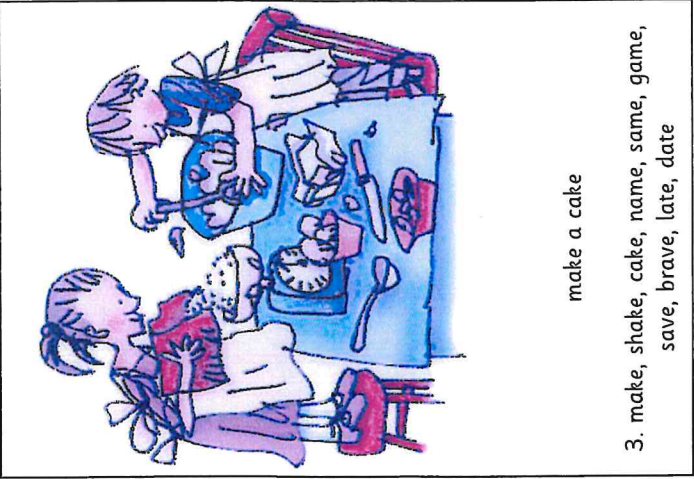
a better letter

3. over, never, better, weather, after, ham-
ster, litter, proper, corner, supper



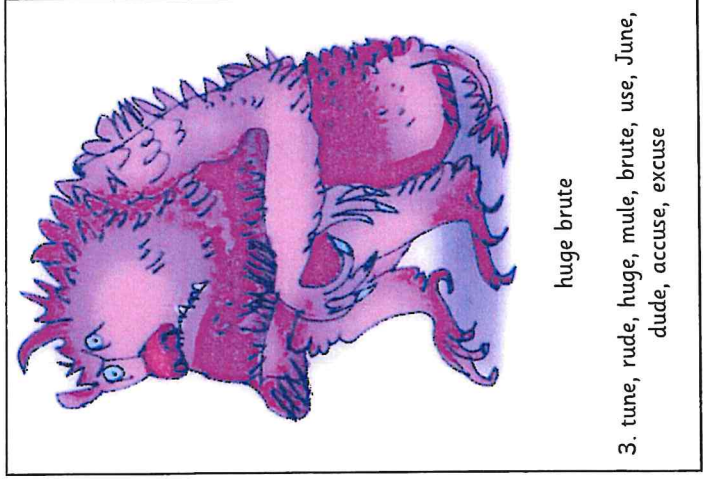
phone home

3. home, hope, rose, spoke, note, broke,
stole, rope, those



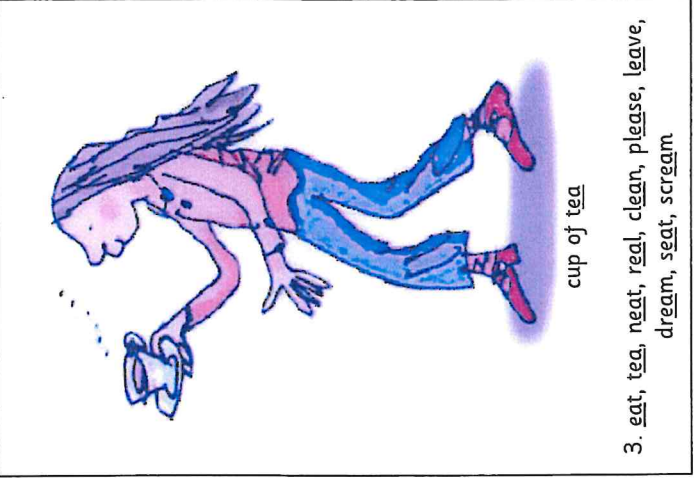
make a cake

3. make, shake, cake, name, same, game,
save, brave, late, date



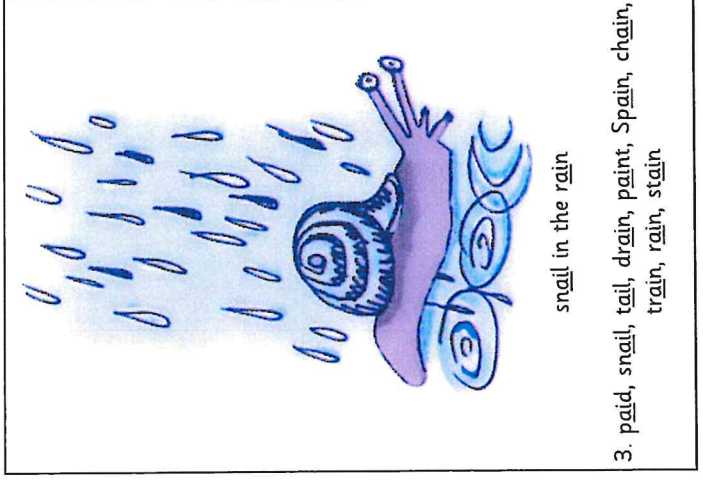
huge brute

3. tune, rude, huge, mule, brute, use, June,
dude, accuse, excuse



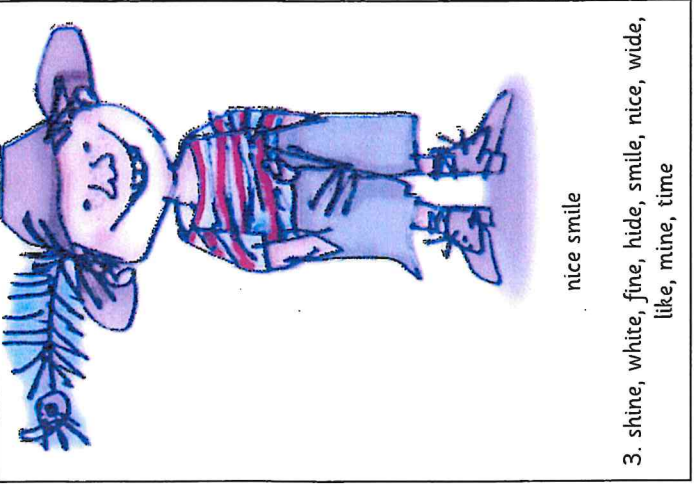
cup of tea

3. eat, tea, neat, real, clean, please, leave,
dream, seat, scream



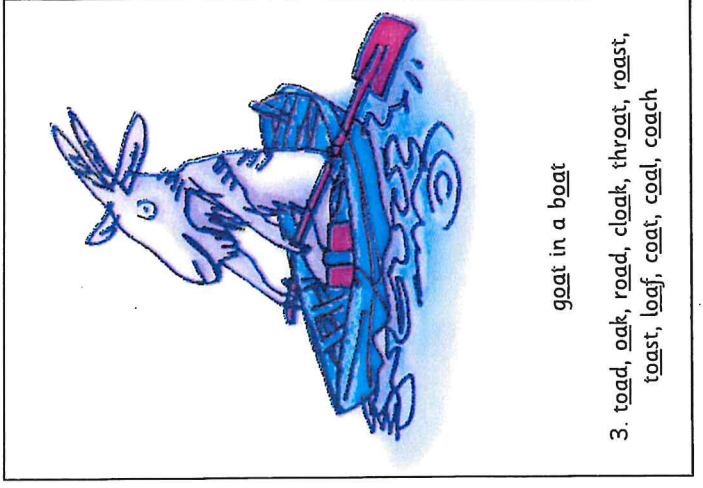
snail in the rain

3. paid, snail, tail, drain, paint, Spain, chain,
train, rain, stain



nice smile

3. shine, white, fine, hide, smile, nice, wide,
like, mine, time



goat in a boat

3. toad, oak, road, cloak, throat, roast,
toast, loaf, coat, coal, coach

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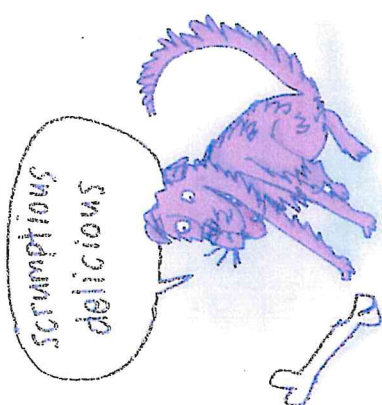
tion

sion




3. new, knew, flew, blew, few, crew, newt,
screw, drew, grew, stew

chew the stew



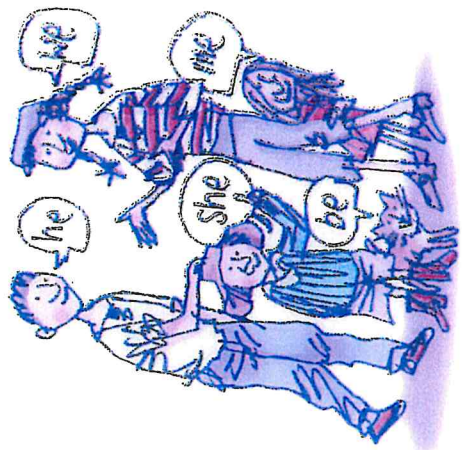
3. precious, delicious, suspicious, ferocious,
vicious, scrumptious

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tious

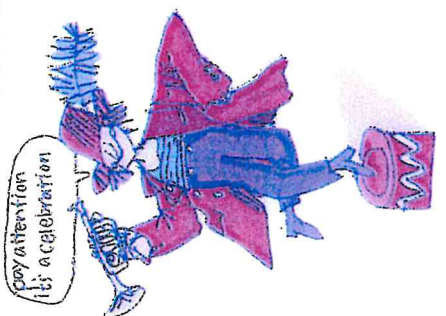


3. conversation, celebration, exploration,
tradition, congratulation, attention

tion



3. he, we, me, she, be



3. conversation, celebration, exploration,
tradition, congratulation, attention,
mansion, vision, explosion, television

and it's on television
tion
sion