

# A Play

By Sheila Clark-Edmands

Illustrated by Steve Cox



 **S.P.I.R.E.**

Specialized Program Individualizing Reading Excellence

EDUCATORS PUBLISHING SERVICE

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**EDUCATORS PUBLISHING SERVICE**  
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*A Play*

Note to Teachers and Parents

Focus Concept

Previously Taught Skills



Penny and her pal Pablo were planning to do a skit for the class contest. They wanted the skit to be funny.



Penny dressed up like an old man. She wore an old hat, a red vest, and gray checked pants. She had a picnic basket with a small white bunny rabbit inside.



Pablo dressed up like a bandit. He had on a black mask and a helmet. His bandit was planning to kidnap the bunny that was in Penny's basket.



When the skit began, Penny came into the class from the hall. Pablo walked in behind her. He was humming a tune. Penny just kept walking.



All of a sudden, Pablo grabbed at the basket. The bunny got upset and jumped into Penny's hands!



Then the bunny hopped onto Penny's hat. The hat fell off, and the rabbit went hopping into the class.



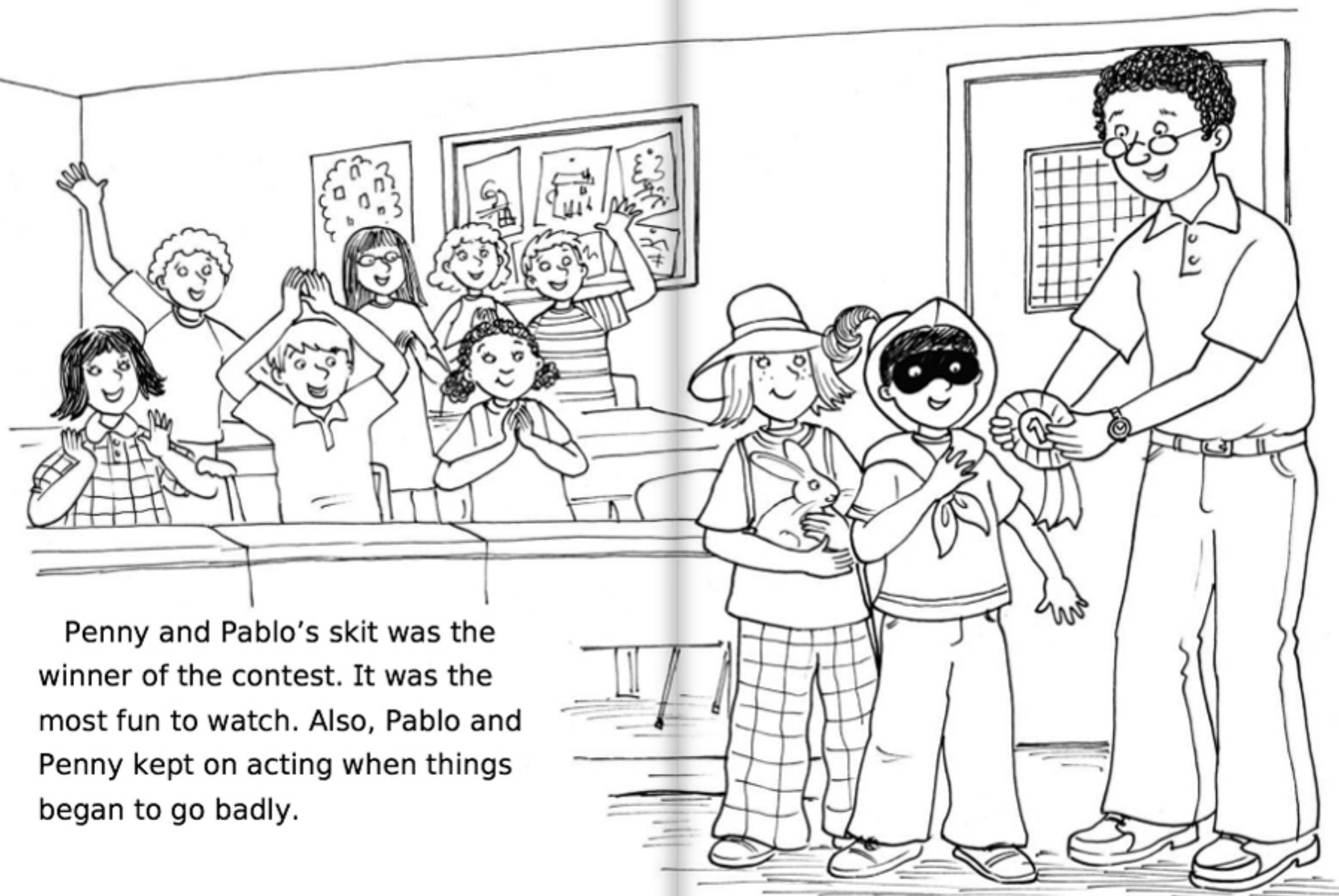
The children in the class yelled as the rabbit hopped past them. Penny and Pablo ran to catch the bunny rabbit, and Pablo fell and lost his helmet. Penny ran into him and fell as well! The rabbit sat still and watched them get up.



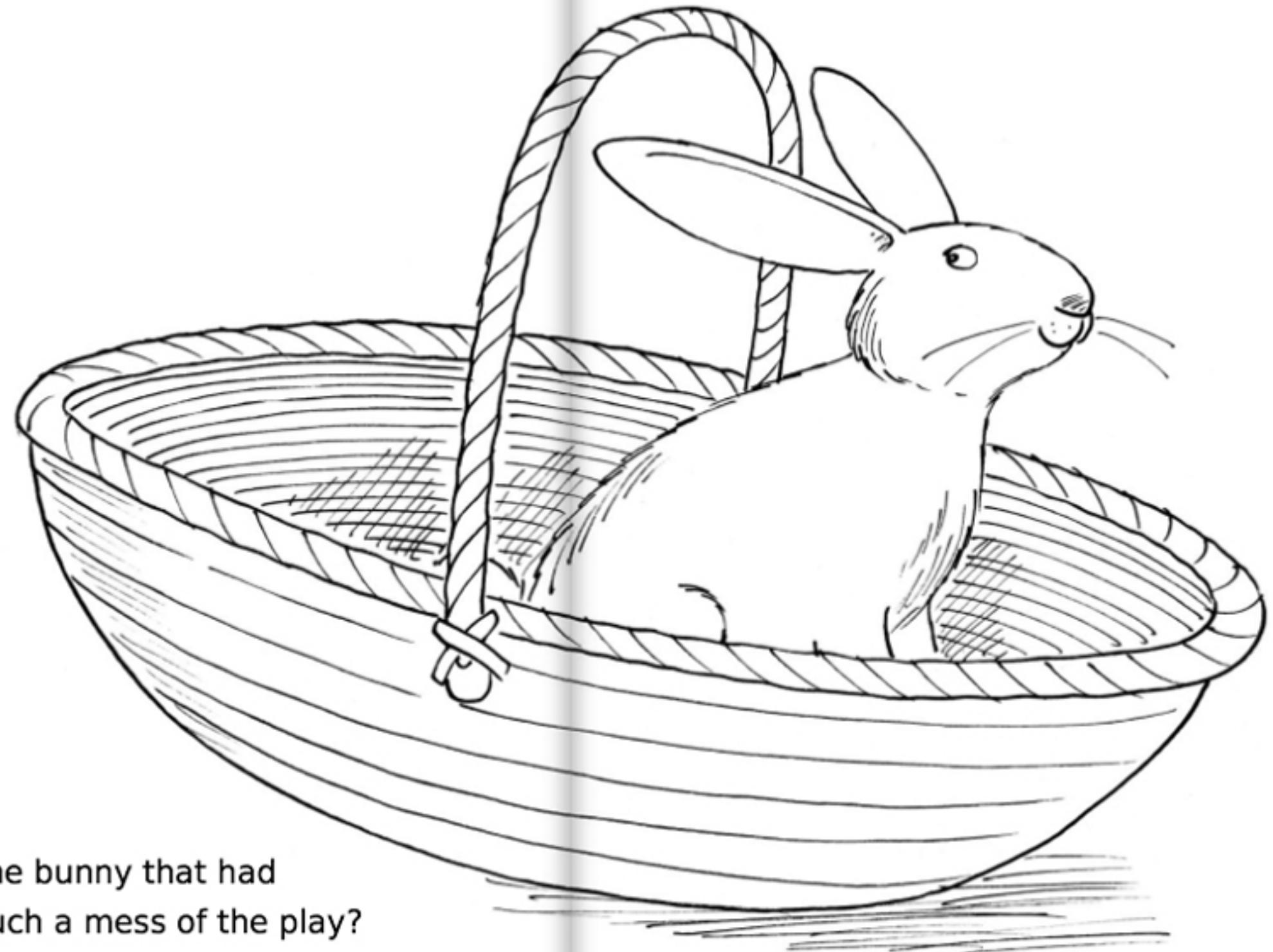
Pablo and Penny did not get upset. They had not planned it, but the skit was quite funny this way.



So they just kept going. At last, they got the rabbit and the skit ended.



Penny and Pablo's skit was the winner of the contest. It was the most fun to watch. Also, Pablo and Penny kept on acting when things began to go badly.



And the bunny that had  
made such a mess of the play?



It became the class mascot!

## Note to Teachers and Parents

All children should have the opportunity to experience success when reading. The decodable ebooks in this engaging series begin with simple words and sentences and increase in difficulty from level to level. Children may begin reading anywhere in the series, depending on their reading ability. The focus concept and sight words for this title, as well as a list of phonics skills children may already be familiar with, can be found at the end of this book.

This decodable ebook is perfect for independent reading. Encourage children to find a quiet spot to read, away from distractions. Help children build confidence by having them read aloud to you or to a friend or sibling.

Before beginning, you may wish to have children read the list of focus concept and sight words. When children have finished the story, encourage them to find these words on each page. To extend children's experience with these phonics concepts, encourage them to name or write down other words that follow the same phonics pattern. For example, if the focus concept is short o, they might write *log*, *pot*, and *frog*.

The presentation of phonics concepts in this series of ebooks was developed for the S.P.I.R.E.® reading program, a product of Educators Publishing Service.

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bandit  
basket  
children  
contest  
helmet  
inside  
kidnap  
mascot  
Pablo  
picnic  
upset

**Consonant Sounds**

all consonants  
sh (ship)  
ch (chin)  
th (this, thin)  
wh (whisk)  
ck (clock)  
tch (catch)  
ff (cliff)  
ll (will)  
ss (miss)  
qu (quilt)

Use

**Welded Sounds**

ang (sang)  
ing (ring)  
ong (strong)  
ung (stung)  
ank (bank)  
ink (wink)  
onk (honk)  
unk (trunk)

**Syllable Patterns**

open single syllables (so, he, fly)  
closed syllable exceptions  
(child, cold, find, post, roll)  
twin-consonant syllable division

**Vowel Sounds**

a (ax)  
i (hit)  
o (ox)  
u (up)  
e (bed)  
al (ball)  
wa (wasp)  
a (lake)  
i (bike)  
o (rode)  
u (tune)  
e (Pete)

ay (spray)

**Affixes**

suffix -ed (melted, smelled, winked)  
suffixes -s, -es, -ing, -er, -est, -en,  
-ish, -ly, -y, -ful, -ness, -less

**Sight Words\***

a, do, his, into, of, the, The, they, to, was, were



# S.P.I.R.E.

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**The Big Catch**

Open Single Syllables (so, he, fly)

**The Bold Robins**

Closed Syllable Exceptions (child, cold, find, post, roll)

**The Rays of the Sun**

oy (spray)

**A Day of Play at Black Cove**

Suffix -ed (melted, smelled, winked)

**No Time to Ride**

Suffixes -s, -es, -ing, -er, -est, -en, -ish, -ly, -y, -ful, -ness, -less

**Helpful Pals**

Twin-Consonant Syllable Division

**The Best**

Twin-Consonant Syllable Division

**A Play**

NonTwin-Consonant Syllable Division

**The Humpback Whale**

NonTwin-Consonant Syllable Division

**A Big Problem**

ou (mound, cousin, doughnut, you), Prefix a- (alike)