

# Helpful Pals

By Sheila Clark-Edmands

Illustrated by Steve Cox



Specialized Program Individualizing Reading Excellence

EDUCATORS PUBLISHING SERVICE

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**EDUCATORS PUBLISHING SERVICE**  
Cambridge and Toronto

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eISBN: 978-1-4293-0885-4

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*Helpful Pals*

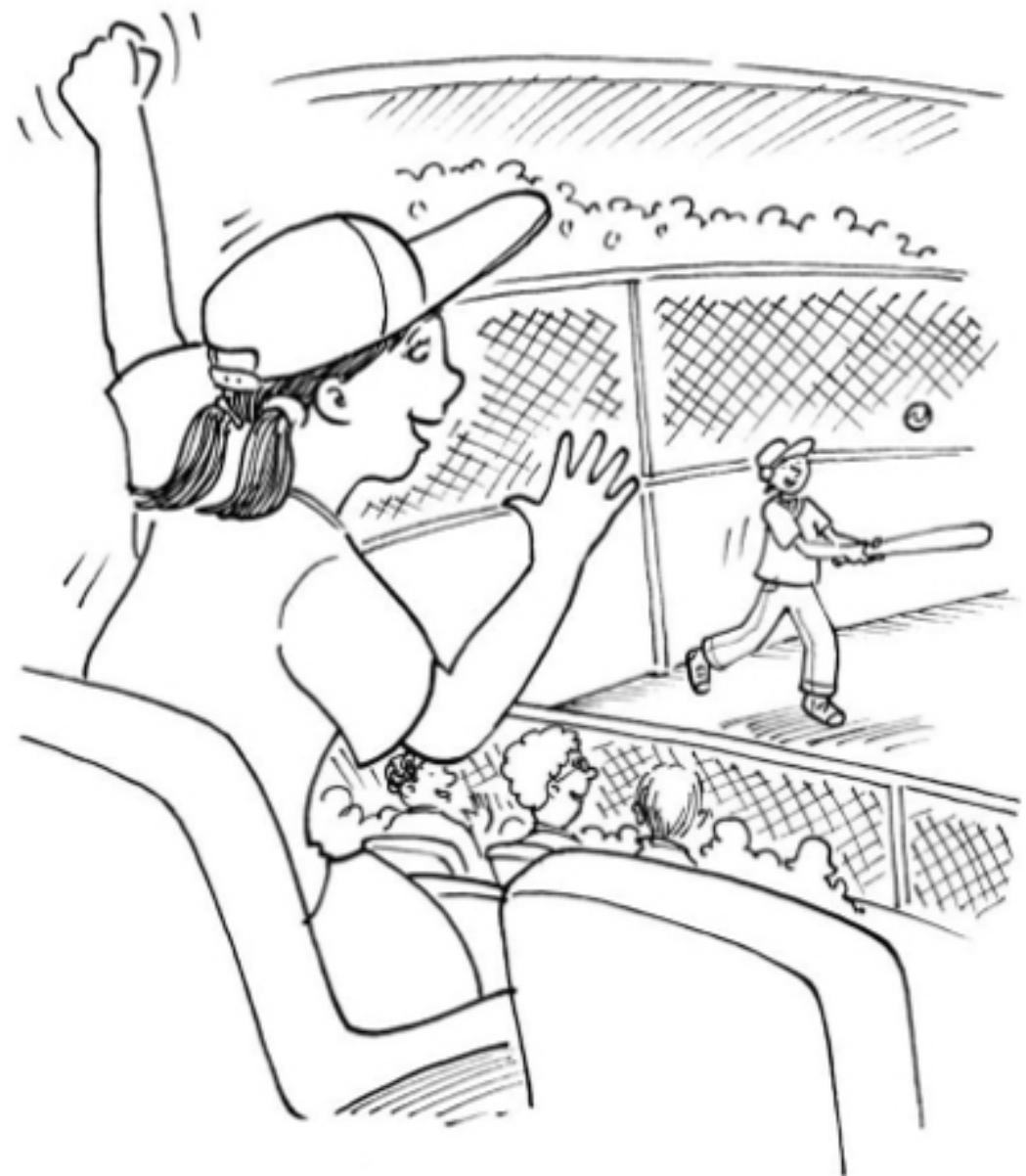
Note to Teachers and Parents

Focus Concept

Previously Taught Skills



Matty is Cal's biggest fan. When he plays baseball, she goes to all his games.



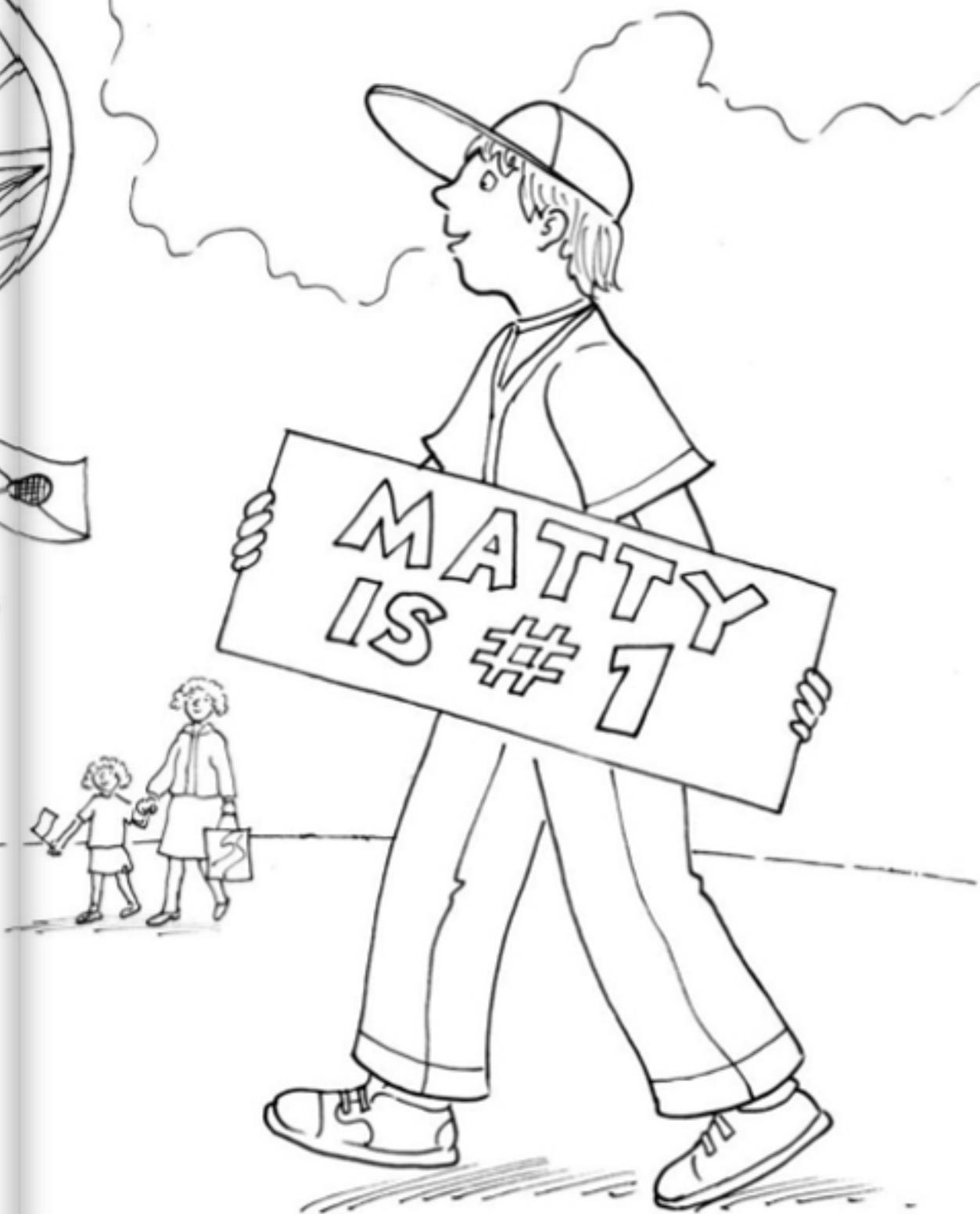
Matty sits in the stands and yells  
when Cal gets a hit and when he  
makes a catch. Cal does not mind.

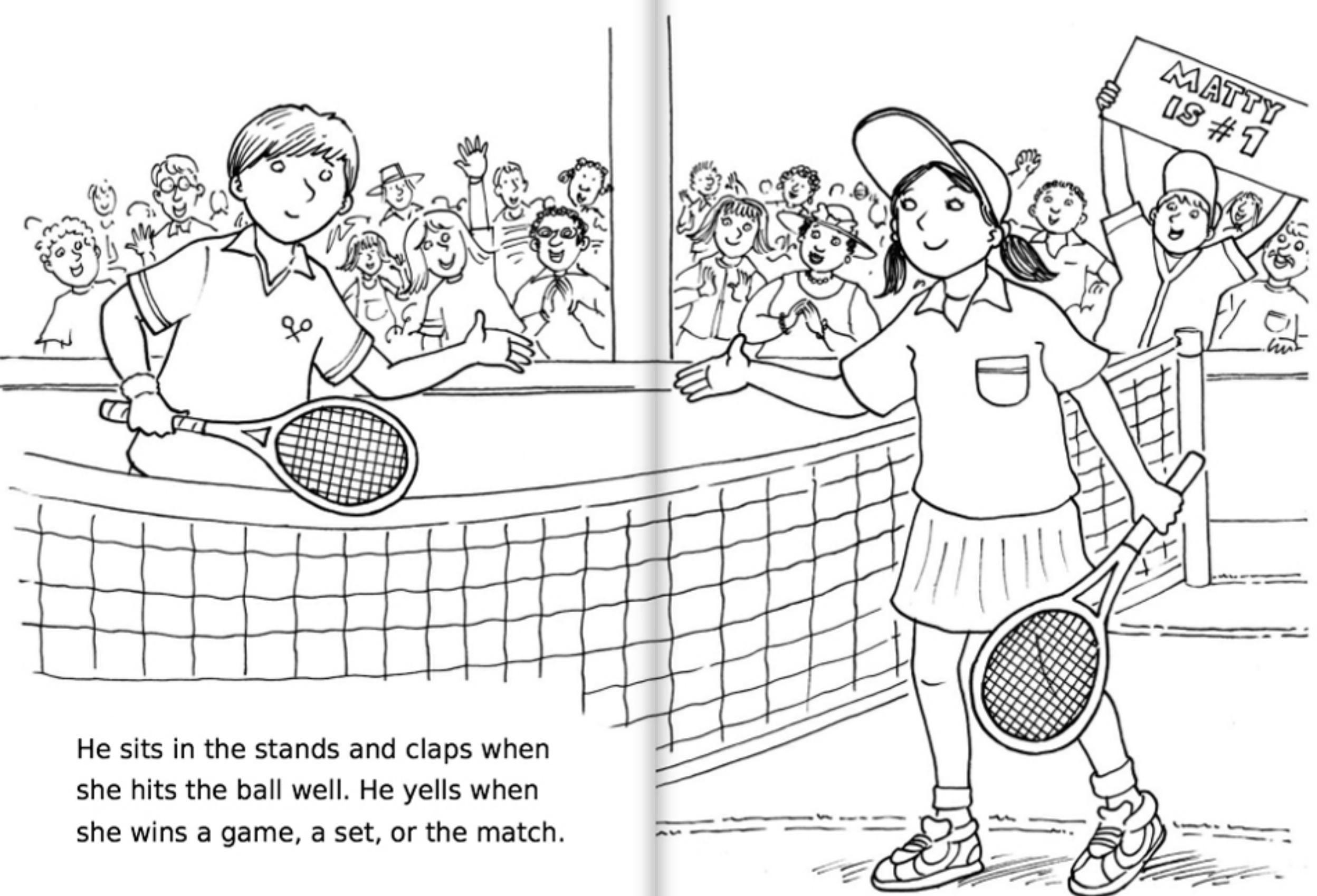


He is happy to have such a pal.



Cal does the same thing when  
Matty plays tennis. He goes to all  
her games. He is her biggest fan.

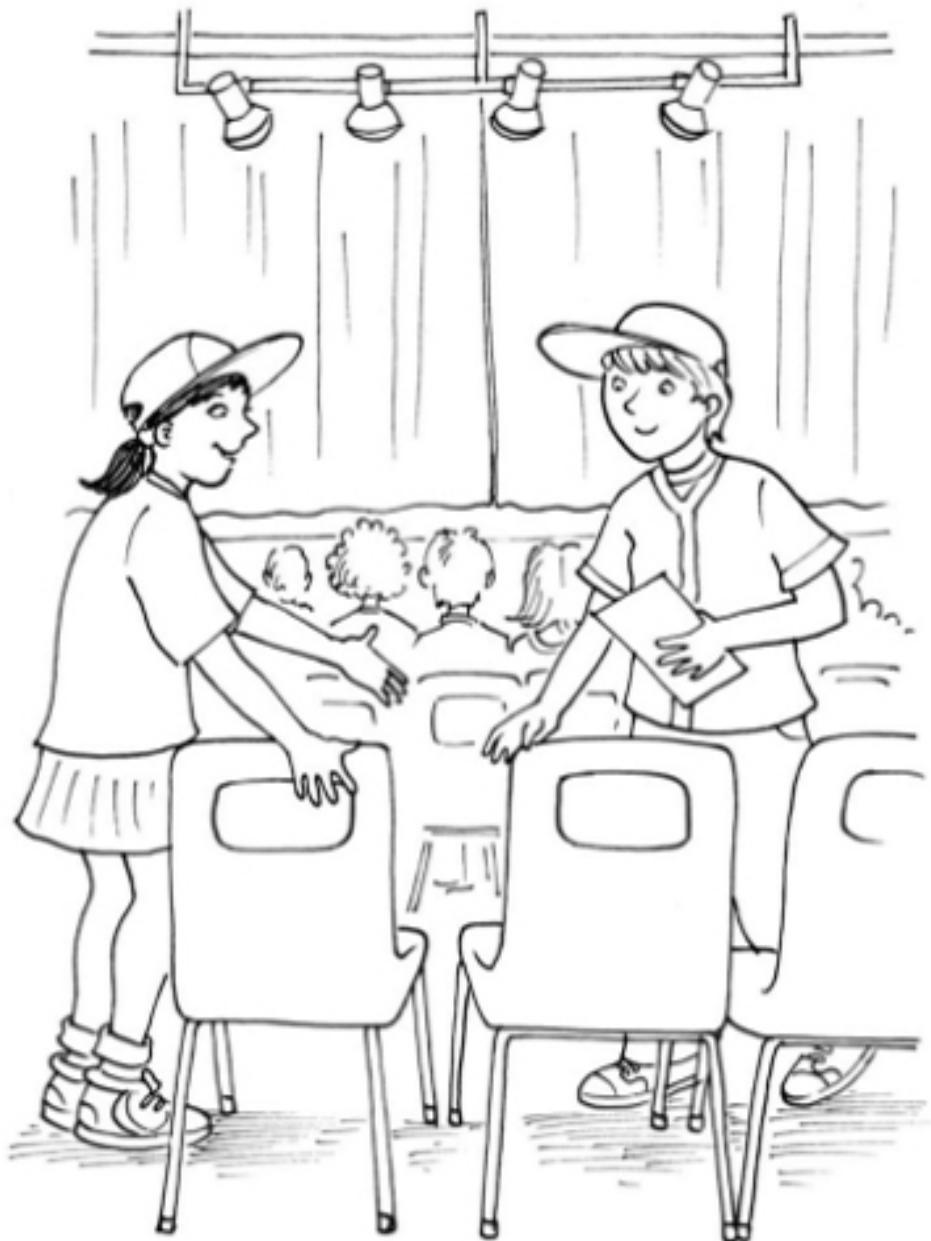




He sits in the stands and claps when  
she hits the ball well. He yells when  
she wins a game, a set, or the match.



Matty is happy to have such a pal.



Matty and Cal go to plays if  
Cal's pal Mike is acting in them.



Mike is quite happy when Matty and Cal can come to watch him act.



When Mike does his act,  
Matty and Cal clap. When  
he says his lines well, they smile.



When the play is done, they stand up and yell. Mike likes his pals to come to all of his plays.



Your pals can be helpful when they are also your fans. Next time your pal does something, offer to go and watch.



Be useful and yell when your pal does something well!

## 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.

To learn more about EPS and S.P.I.R.E.®, visit:  
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biggest  
happy  
Matty  
offer  
tennis

**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)

vse

**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)

**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, are, come, does, done, goes, have, his, is, of,  
says, something, the, they, to, your

\*Sight words are nonpatterned or very low-patterned words of high frequency.



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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 or (alike)