

Decodable Readers

THANKFUL ♥ STORIES

8 decodable readers and board games



Follows a
structured
progression
of skills

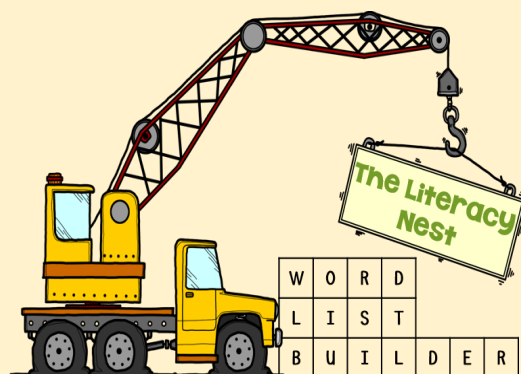


Seasonal Resources for Orton-Gillingham Lessons!



I hope you enjoy this resource! Here are a few ways to stay in touch with me!

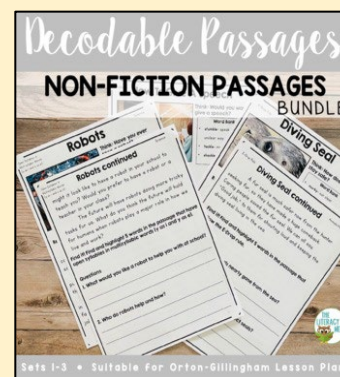
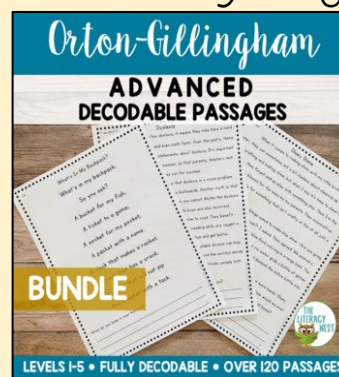
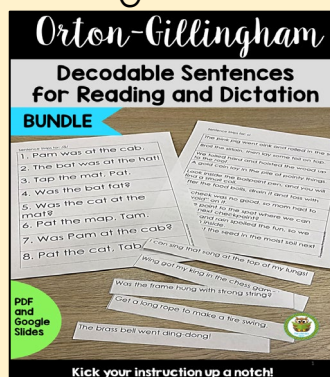
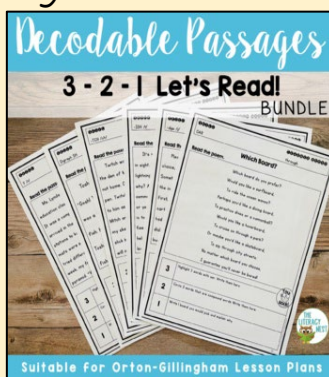
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You may also like the following resources. Click any image below.



[Click here for more Orton-Gillingham resources.](#)

THANKFUL



STORIES

Thank you for your purchase! This is a set of 8 decodable mini books. You will need to print, assemble and staple them into books prior to use. They follow a structured progression based on the [sequence](#) I use to create my O-G resources. Each book will feature a culmination of skills and concepts. Please refer to the table of contents to see which skills are addressed in each book.

These stories are written to use during the month of November, or whenever you celebrate a holiday like Thanksgiving. They're a fun seasonal activity that will reinforce decoding skills.

Since using pictures to guess or read an unknown word is NOT following the science of reading, but rather a compensatory habit, I took special care not to include pictures that readers could use to guess at words. Instead, I've included a photo or clip art that is based on the title of the book. Additionally, I had added empty boxes on pages, so your students may briefly sketch or illustrate what they visualized as they read. This is a good way to check their comprehension!

You will find comprehension questions on the back page of each mini-book. I hope you enjoy using these just as much as I enjoyed writing them for your students and mine!

Happy reading!

Emily Gibbons, M.Ed. C/AOG, CSLDP



Click [HERE](#) for a tutorial to show how the books can be assembled.



[GO HERE](#) FOR THE
GOOGLE SLIDES VERSION.



Page #	Title	Skills	O-G Level
5-11	In The Big Pot	CVC (all short vowels)	1
12-16	Pumpkin Fluff Dip	Digraphs, Initial and Final Consonant Blends	1
17-21	Time For The Big Game	VCe	1
22-26	Helping Hands	Vowel Teams, R-Controlled Vowels	2
27-32	Tricky Turkey	Vowel Teams, Vowel Diphthongs, R-Controlled Vowels	2
33-38	The Turkey Trot	Vowel Teams, R-Controlled Vowels	3-4
39-43	Grandma's Tradition	Schwa A, C+LE multisyllabic words, vowel suffixes	4-5
44-48	Autumn Festival	Schwa Vowels, Silent Letters,	5
49-57	Word Cards for Games		
58-60	Game Directions and Board Games		

Skills: CVC (all short vowels)

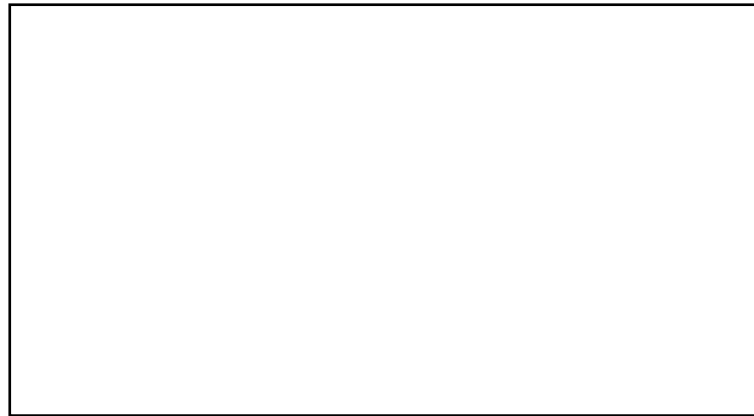
Red words: the, is, are

Question: What two things can NOT go in the big pot?

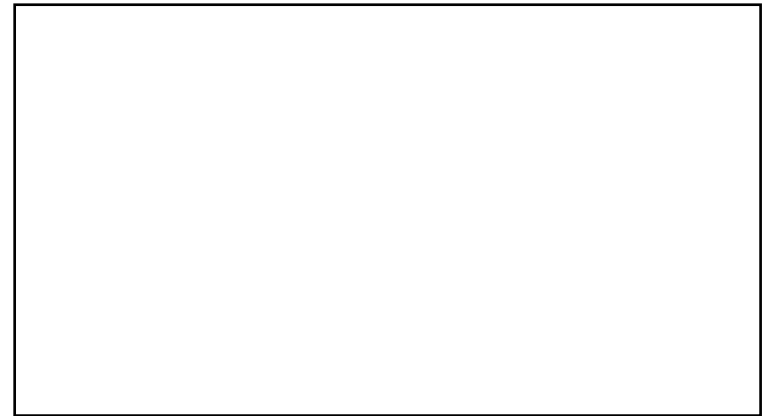


IN THE BIG POT

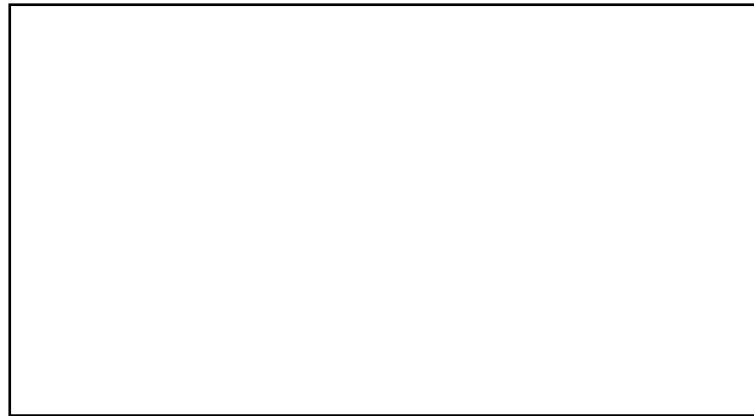
Written by: Emily Gibbons



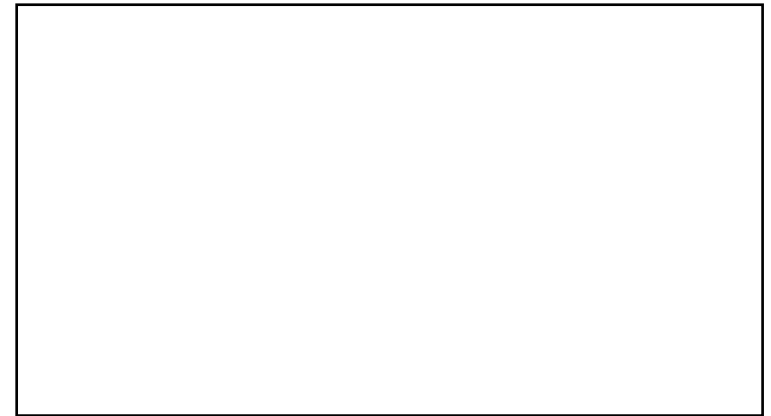
Cut the yams.



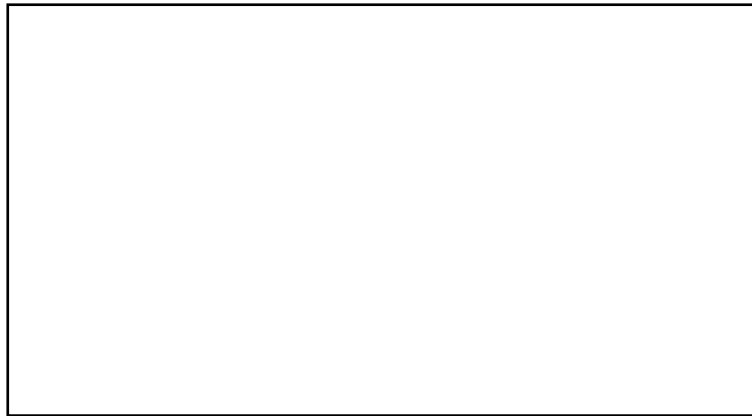
Pop the yams in the big pot.



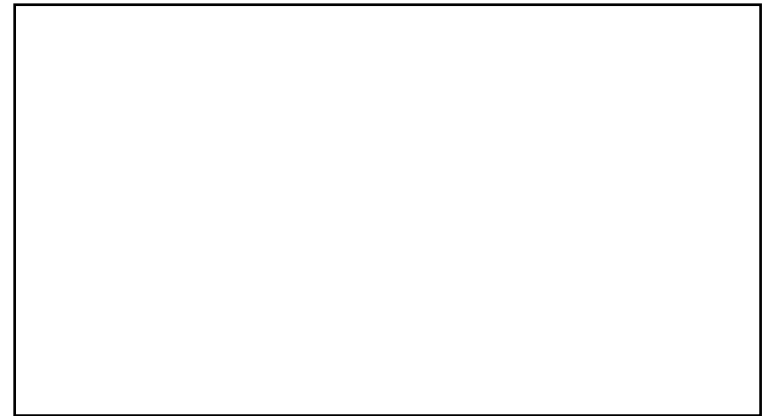
Cut the ham.



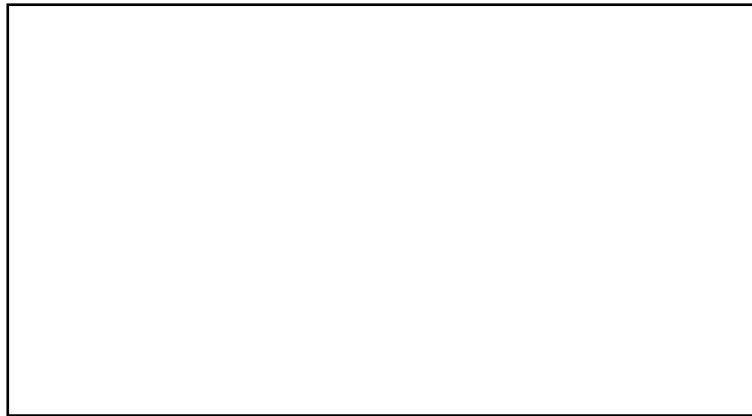
The ham can go in the big pot.



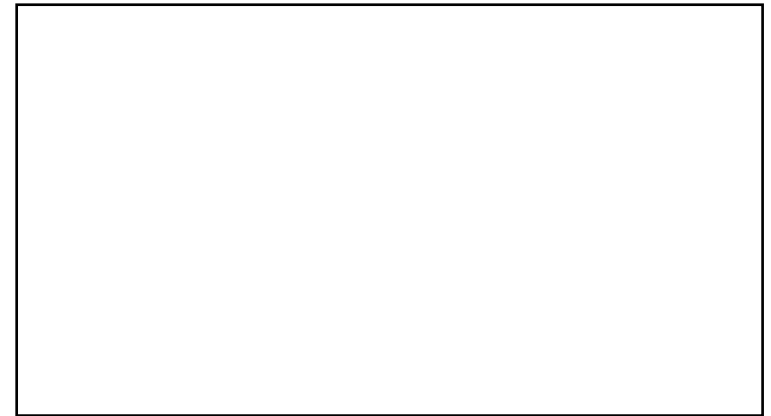
Mix the egg.



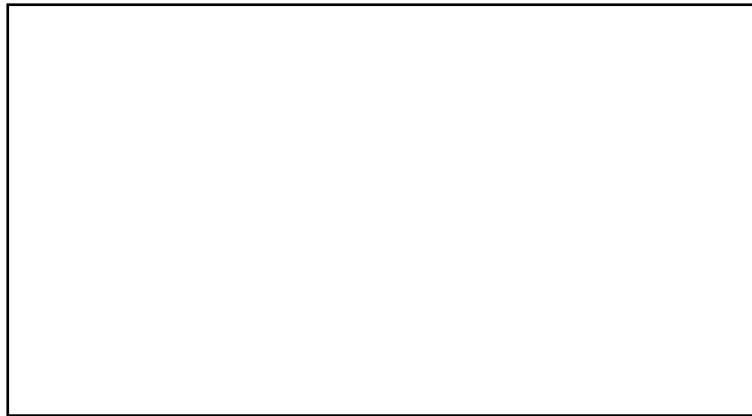
Toss the egg in the pot.



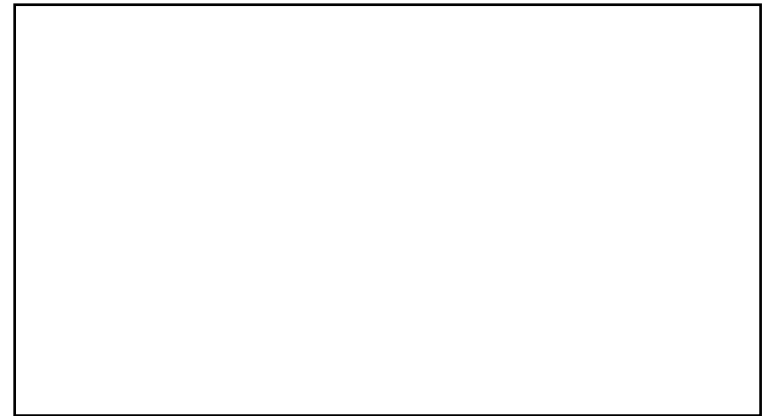
Cut up the nut.



Add the nut to the pot.



The big pot is hot.



Mix it up.



An egg and a nut are in the big
pot?



NO!

Skills: Initial and Final Consonant Blends, Digraphs

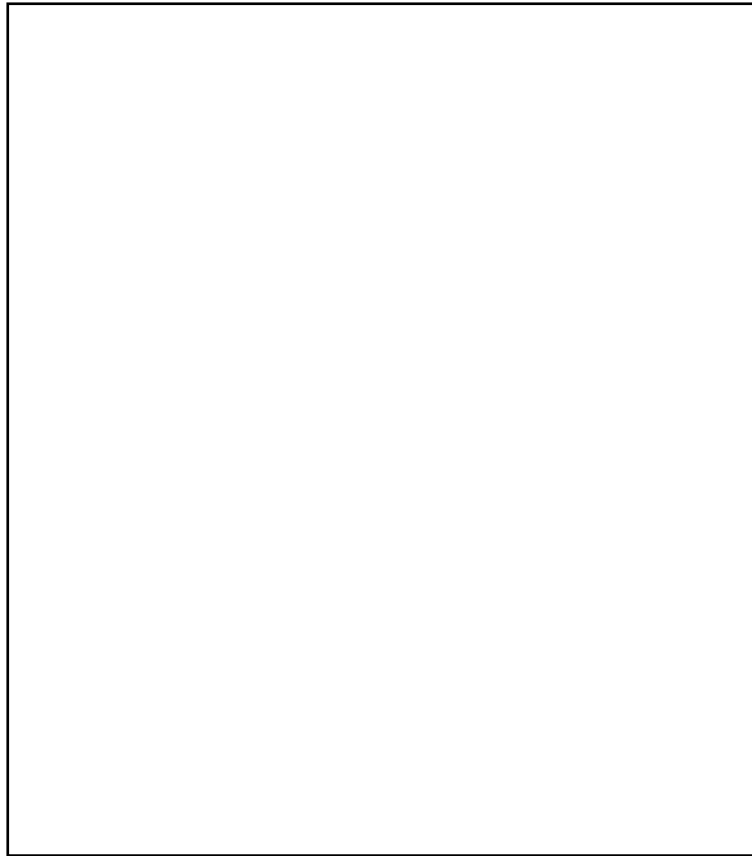
Red words: to, of, was, said, some, into

Question: What did Prin do first?

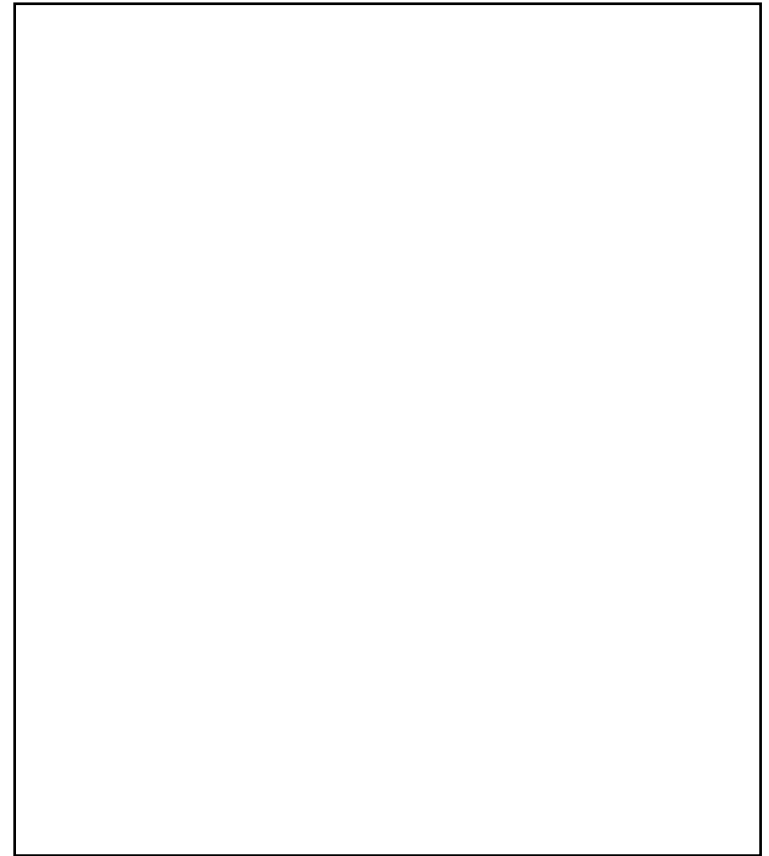


PUMPKIN FLUFF DIP

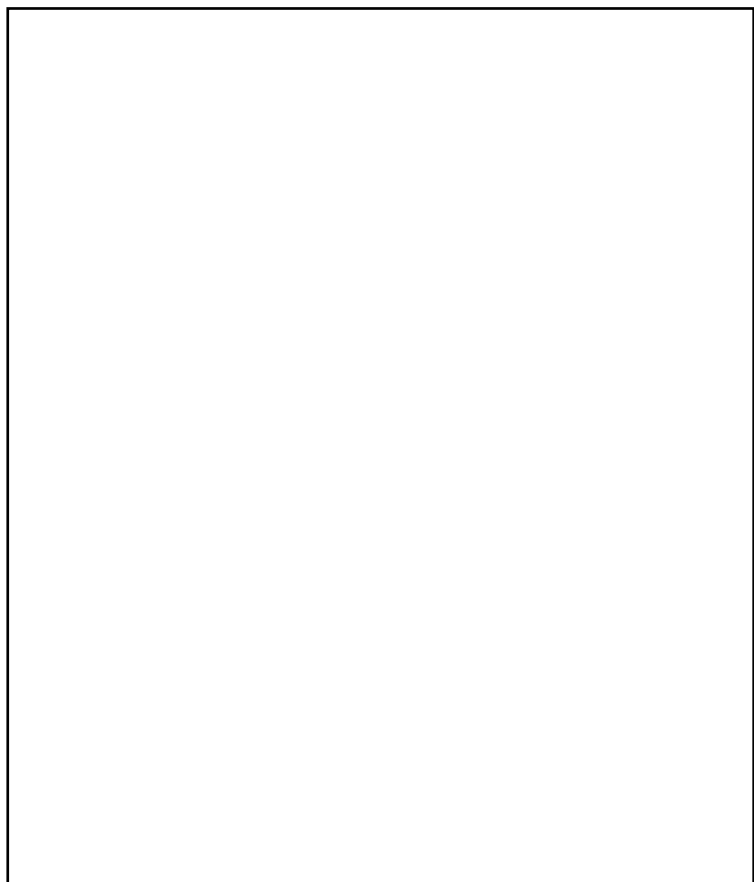
Written by: Emily Gibbons



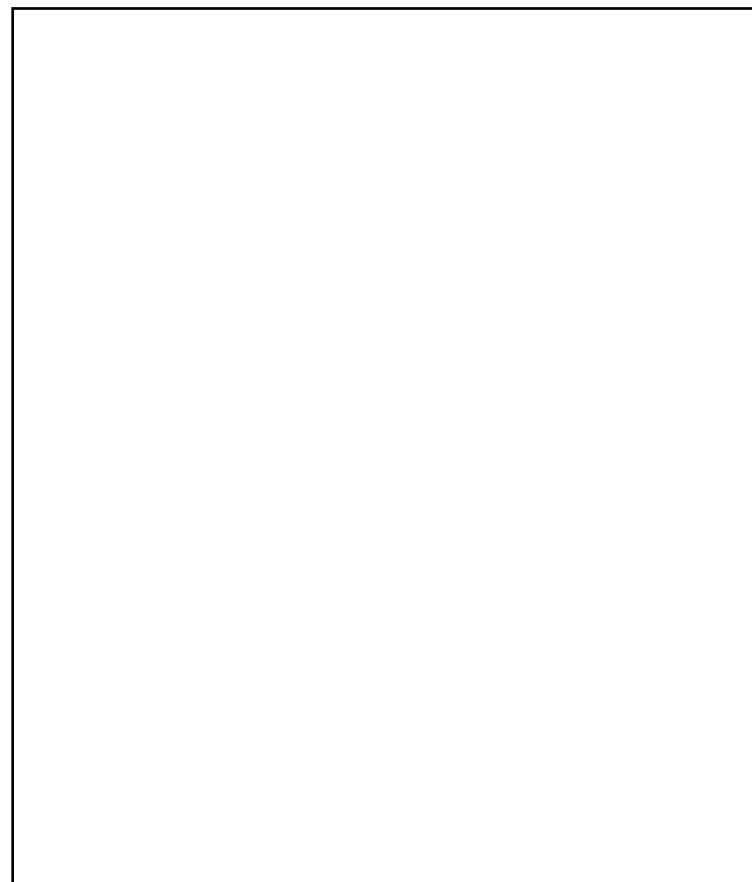
Prin had a plan to whip up
some pumpkin dip with fluff.



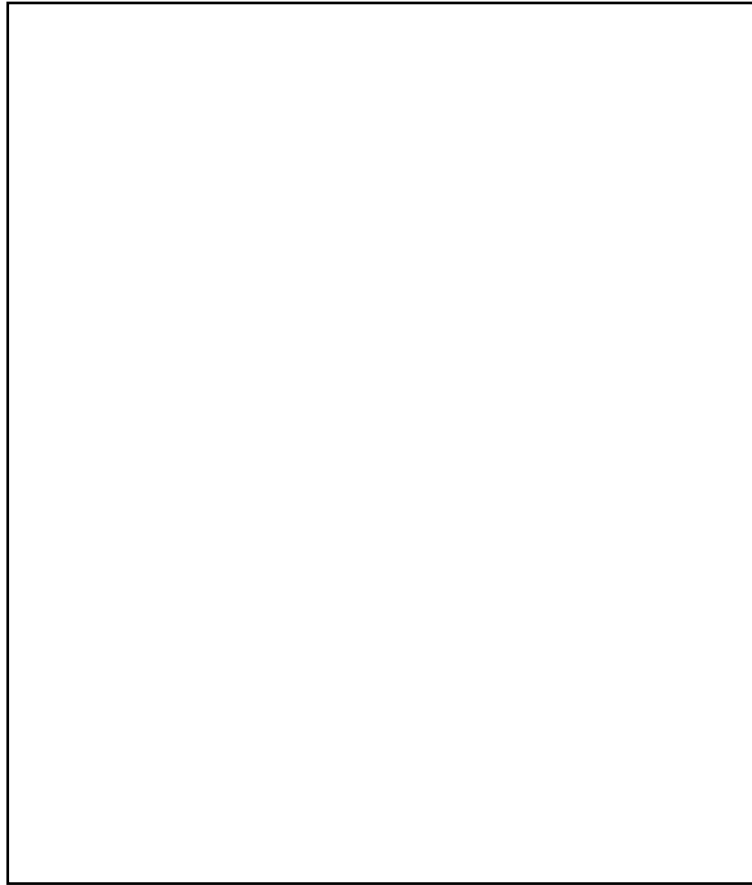
Prin got a plump pumpkin to cut.
She had to chop off the top.



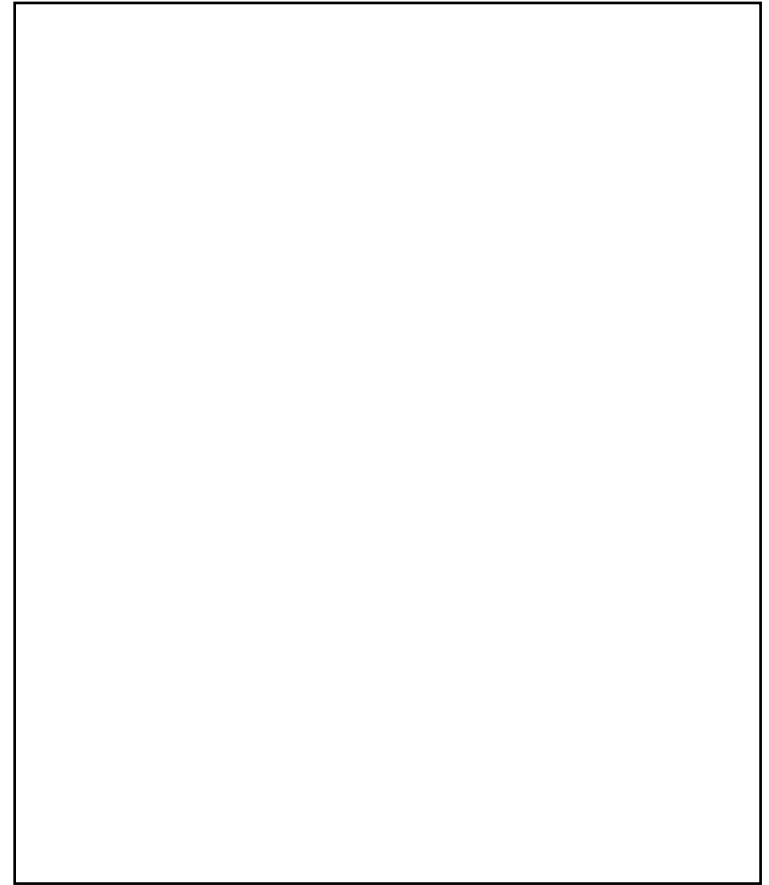
She had to grab the pumpkin pulp. Squish, squish went the pulp in Prin's hand.



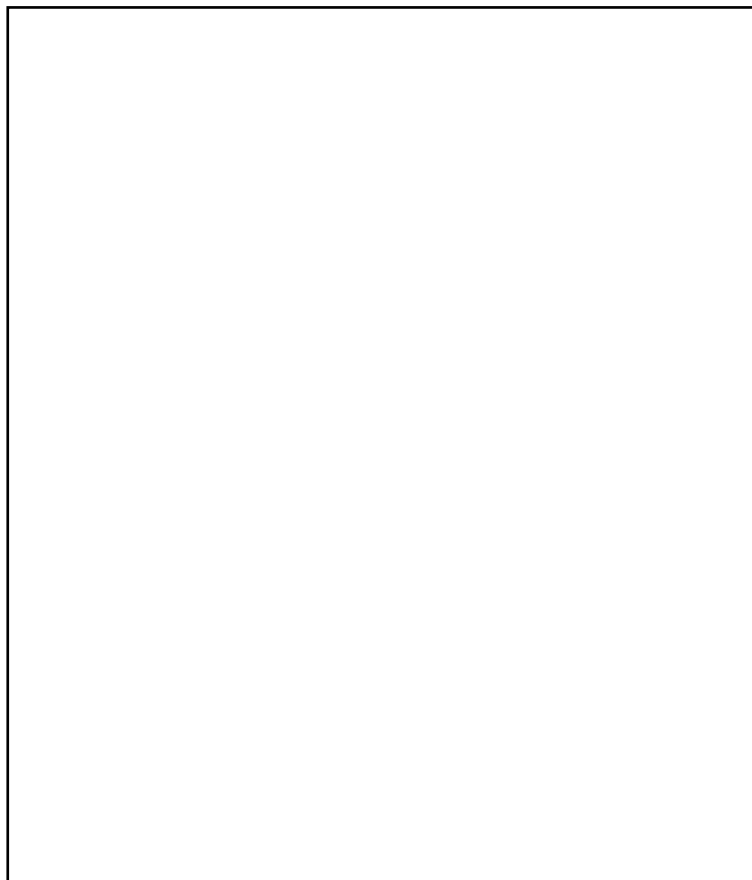
"No pulp left," said Prin. The pumpkin was just a shell to fill with the dip.



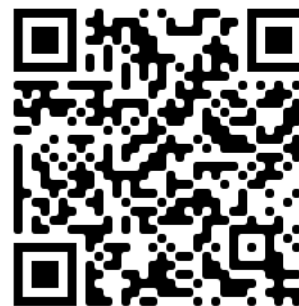
Prin had to whip a can of pumpkin
and some fluff into a dip.
Squish, squish went the dip.
“I will fill the pumpkin,” said Prin.



Plop, plop went the dip into the
shell of the pumpkin. Prin will get
snacks to dip in the pumpkin dip.



“The pumpkin dip is set. Yum!”
said Prin. She had a whiff. It
was the best dip yet.



Try this pumpkin
fluff dip recipe.



Prin had some pals test the
pumpkin dip with snacks. “Yum!
This dip is the best!” said Prin’s
pals.

Skills: Vce (all long vowels)
Red words: to, was, done, said

Question: Why did Dale set up so fast?



TIME FOR THE BIG GAME

Written by: Emily Gibbons



Steve had a plan to dine at home with Dale. Steve will jot a list.



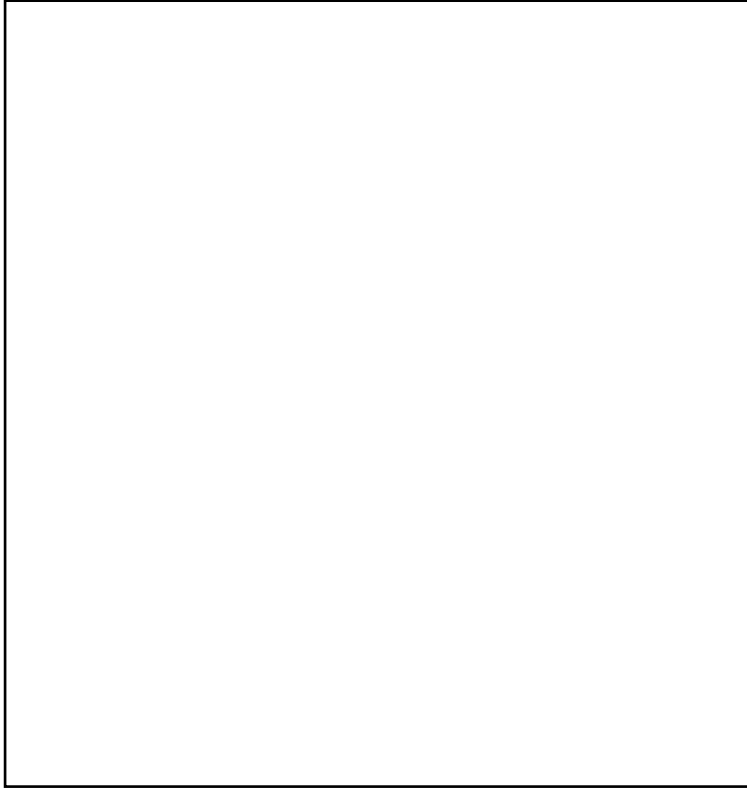
“I will get yams, ham, a bag of chips, a cake mix and milk,” said Steve. It was time to shop.



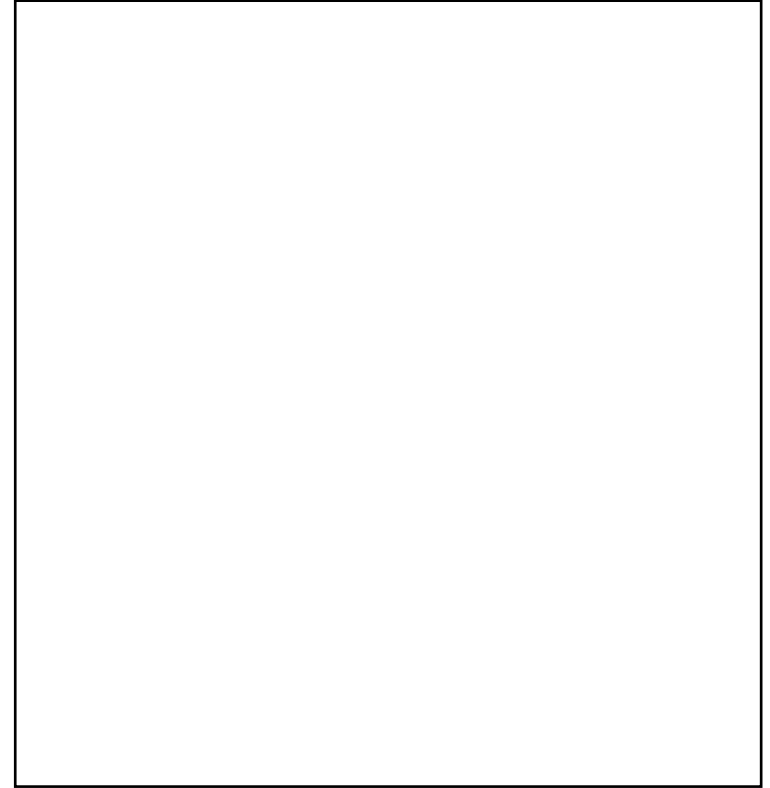
Dale did not wish to shop with Steve. Dale said, "I cannot shop! The big game is on! I cannot miss it."



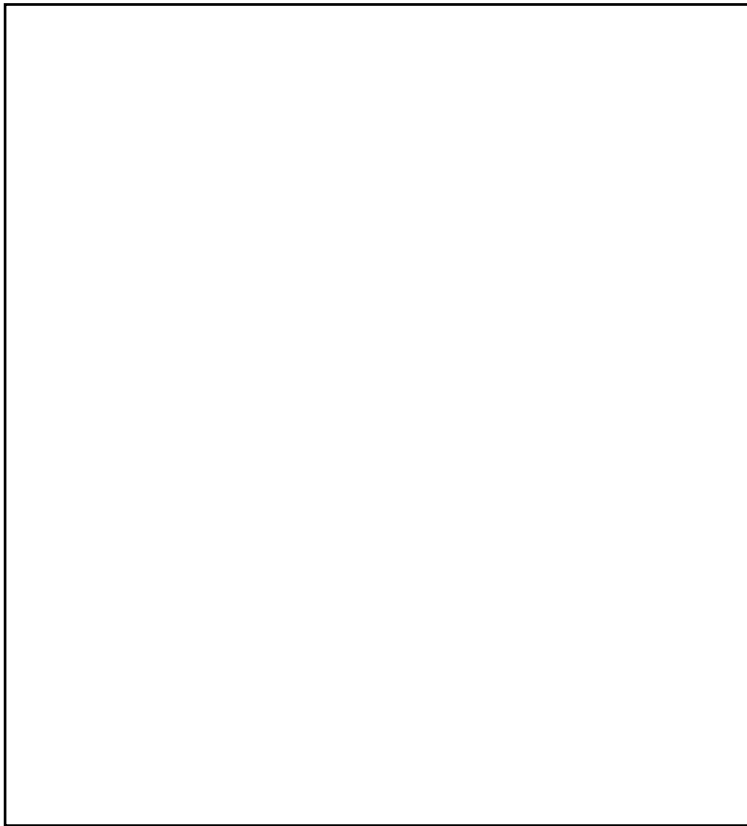
"I will shop," said Steve. "Set up. Then, we can dine at home," said Steve. Dale gave a nod.



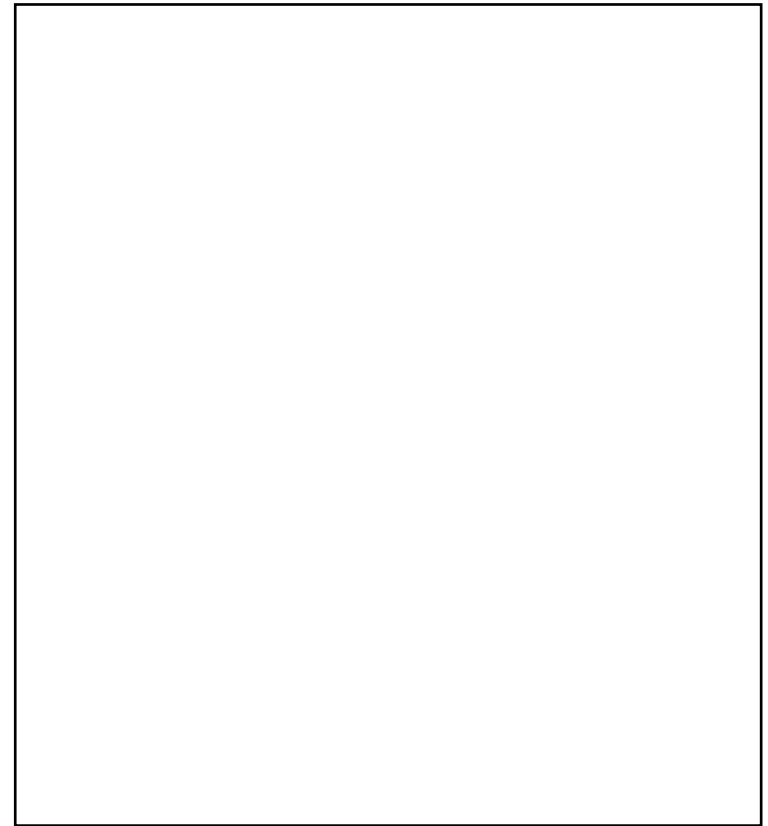
Dale had to set up fast. "I cannot miss the big game. Dale went to grab a pot to fill with yams.



Then, Dale got a dish to set the ham. "I will set plates and napkins." Dale was done.



Dale sat to rest. The big game was on, and Dale was glad. Just then, Steve was home from the trip to the shop.



Steve had big bags from the trip. Steve said to Dale, "We can dine when the big game is done." Dale gave a smile.

Skills: Vowel Teams, R-Controlled Vowels
Red words: the, was, there, were, said, people

Question: What are some ways you can help those in need?



HELPING HANDS

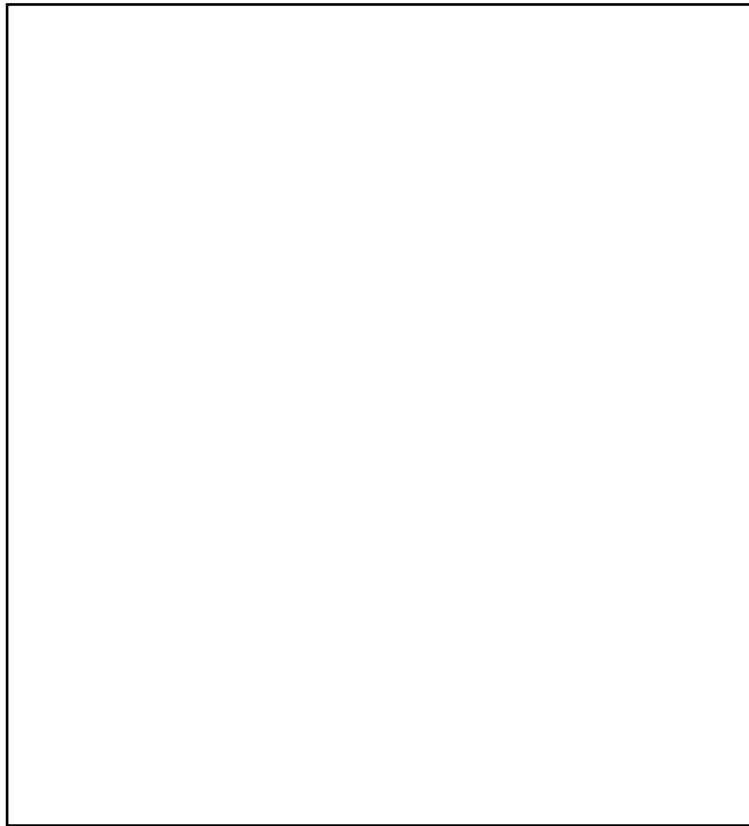
Written by: Emily Gibbons



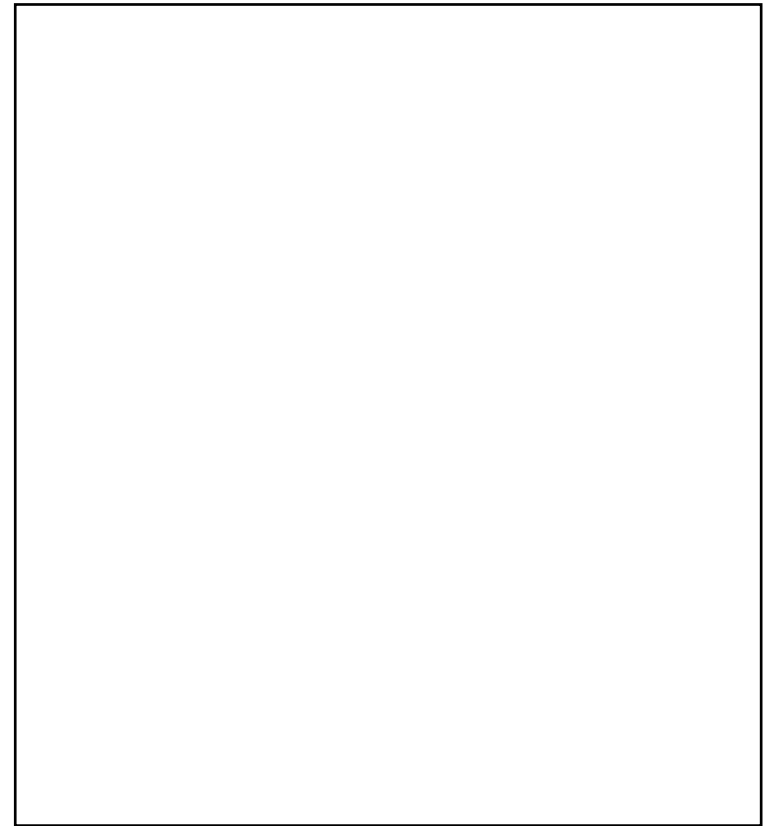
Ms. Clay spoke to the class.
“There are some who do not have
plenty of food to eat.



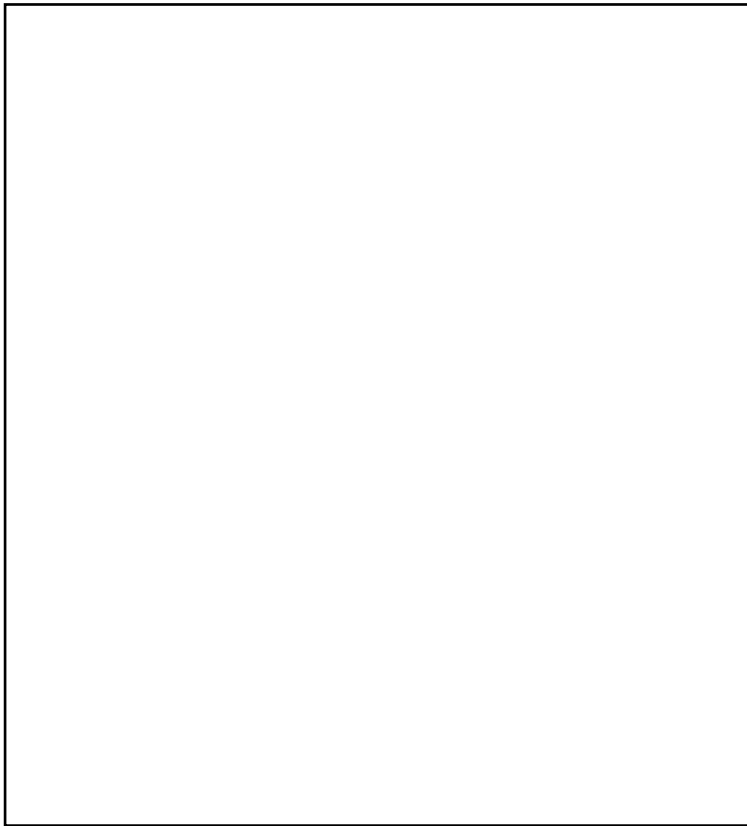
“Bring in food to help those in
need have dinner. We will fill a
box and take it to the shelter.



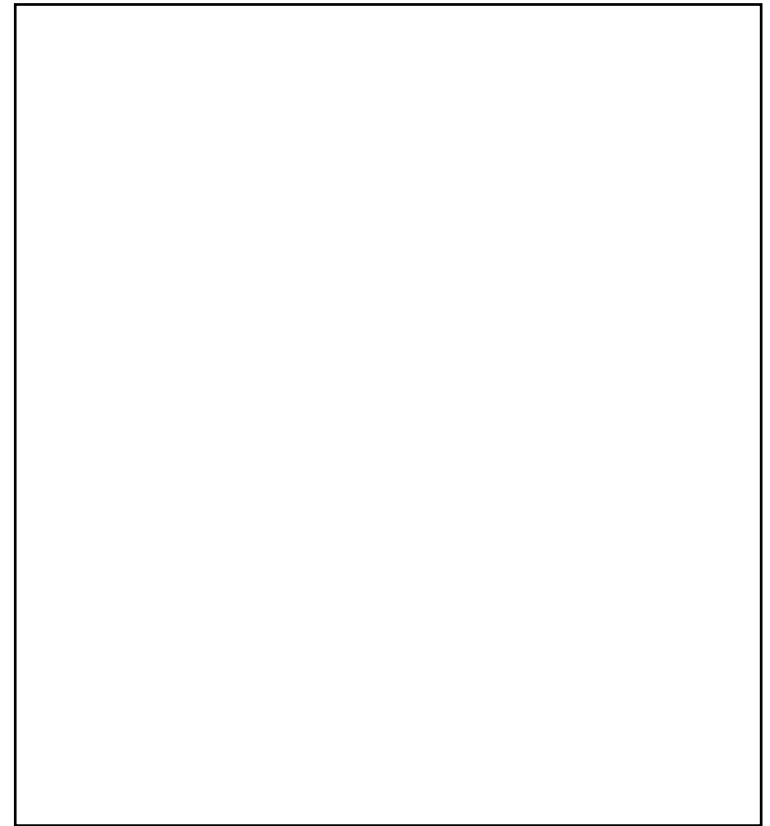
Days passed and kids filled a big box of food for the shelter. Ms. Clay was thrilled!



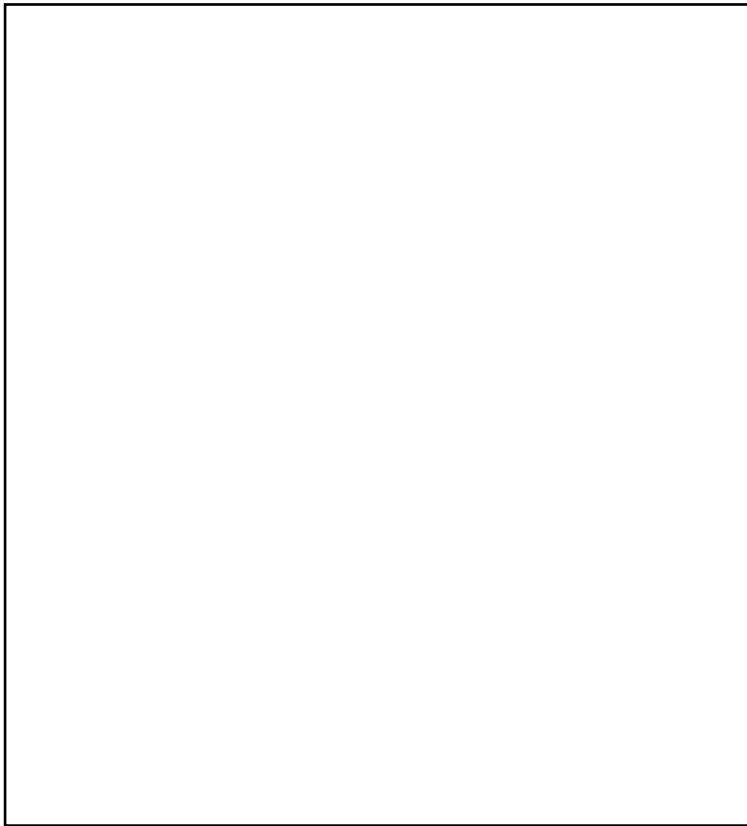
There were cans of beans, popcorn, rolls, corn, stuffing and cakes. Ms. Clay had a turkey to bring to the shelter.



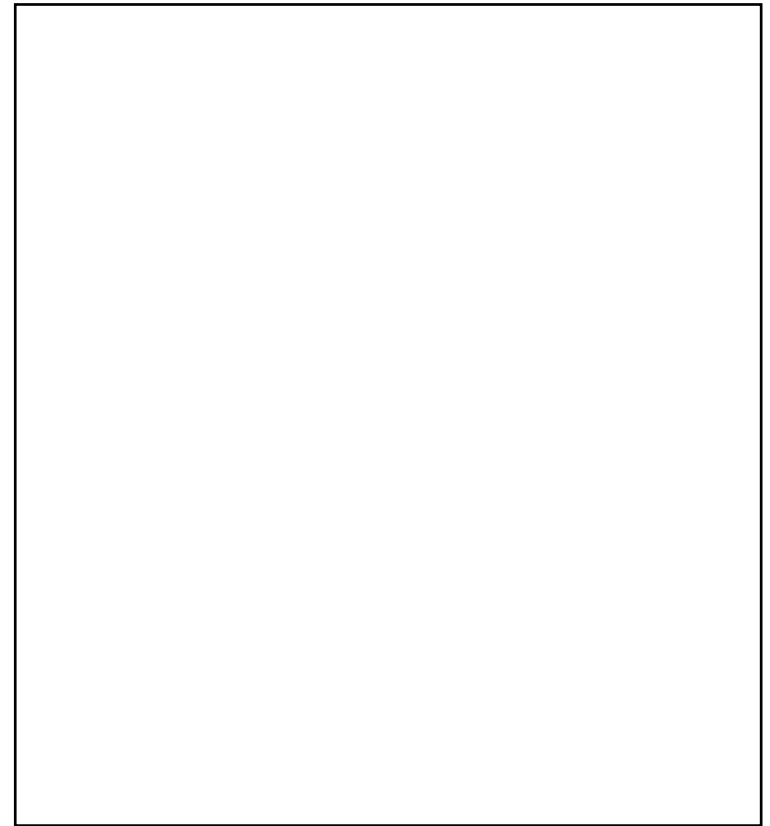
When we use our helping hands,
we can do the best things!" said
Ms. Clay with a smile.



Ms. Clay took the boxes of food
to the shelter just in time for
Thanksgiving.



A week after, a card came to the class. It said, Thank you for the helping hands.” That made us feel glad that we took time to help.



“Let’s think of a way to use helping hands to help more people!” we said to Ms. Clay. She gave us a huge smile.

Skills: Vowel Teams, Vowel Diphthongs, R-Controlled Vowels

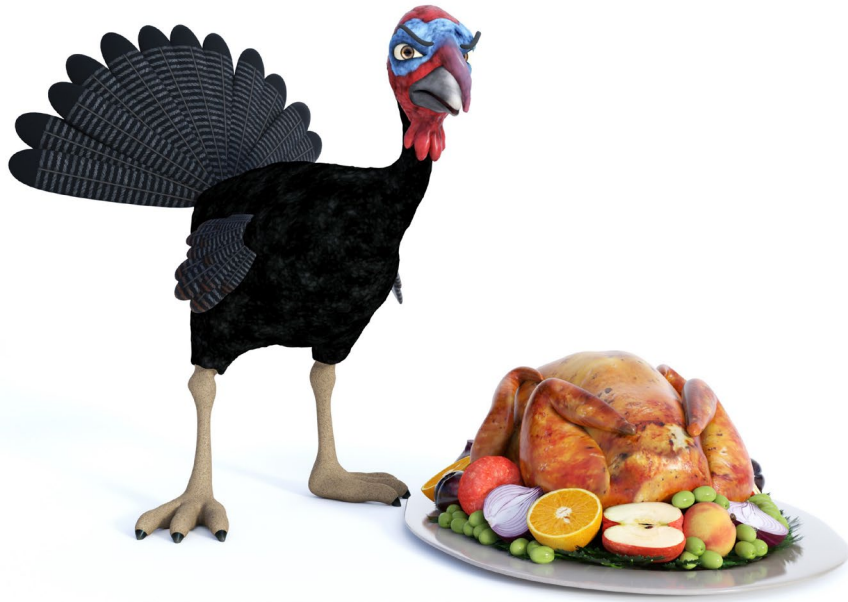
Red words: love, you, one, have, from

Question: What do you think is the best costume and why?



TRICKY TURKEY

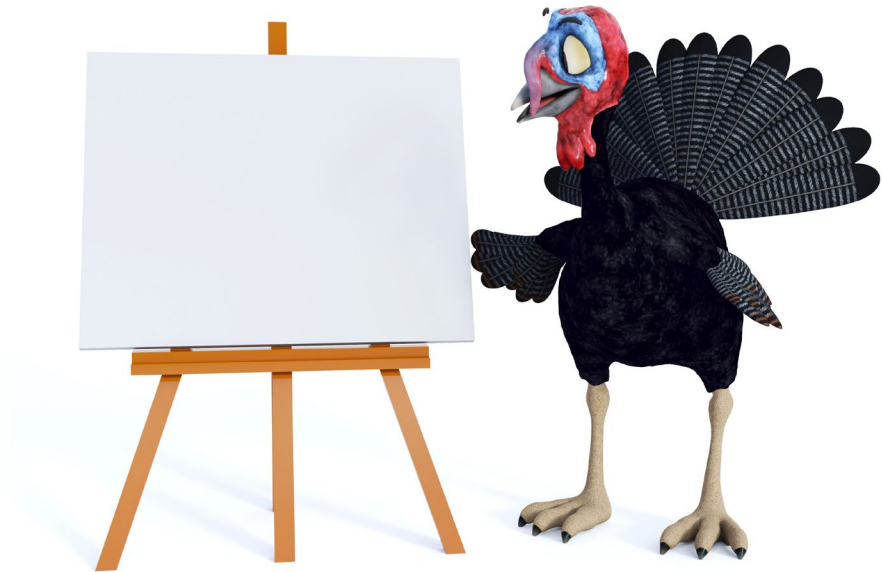
Written by: Emily Gibbons



It's hard to be a turkey in November. I love my life on the farm. I'd rather not be on a platter to eat. How rude!



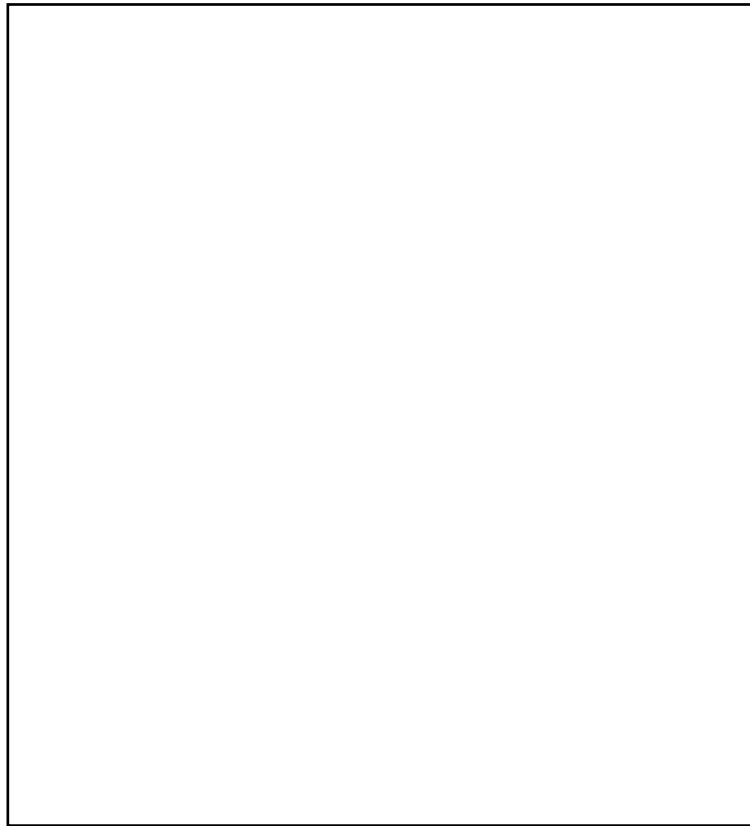
This time, I will think of a tricky plan to save myself. No one will stuff and eat me for dinner!



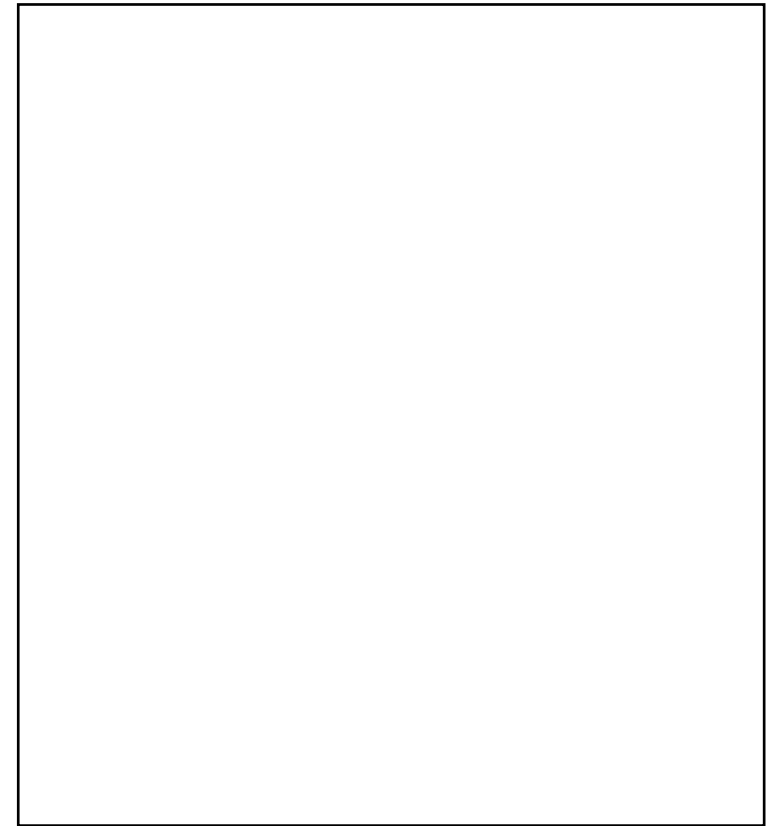
I will think of a costume and sketch it out. Do you think I can find one that will hide my beak and tail?



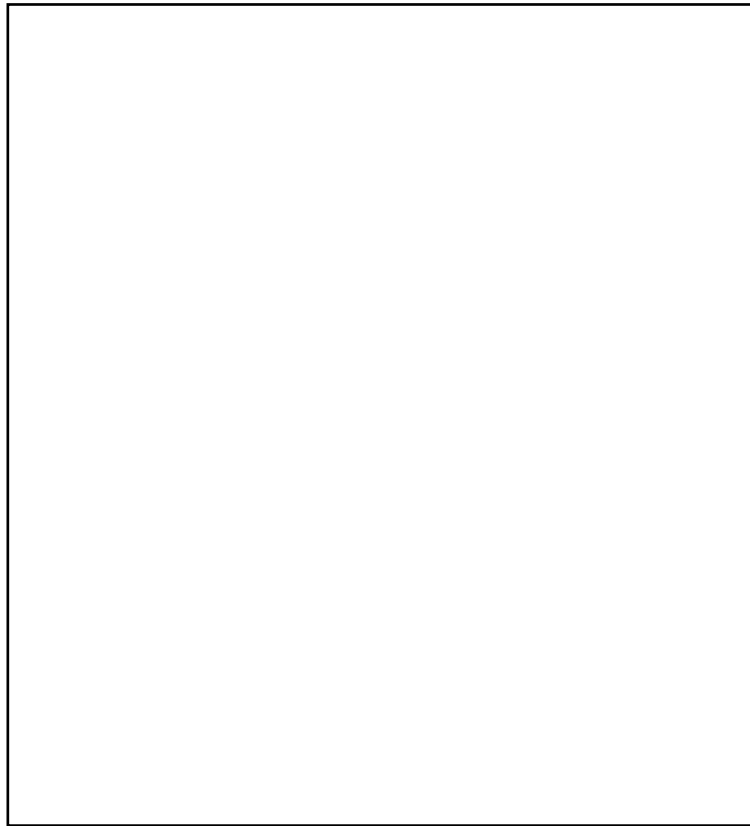
A football player sounds like a good costume. I can run quickly and kick a ball. Most teams will think my skills can win games.



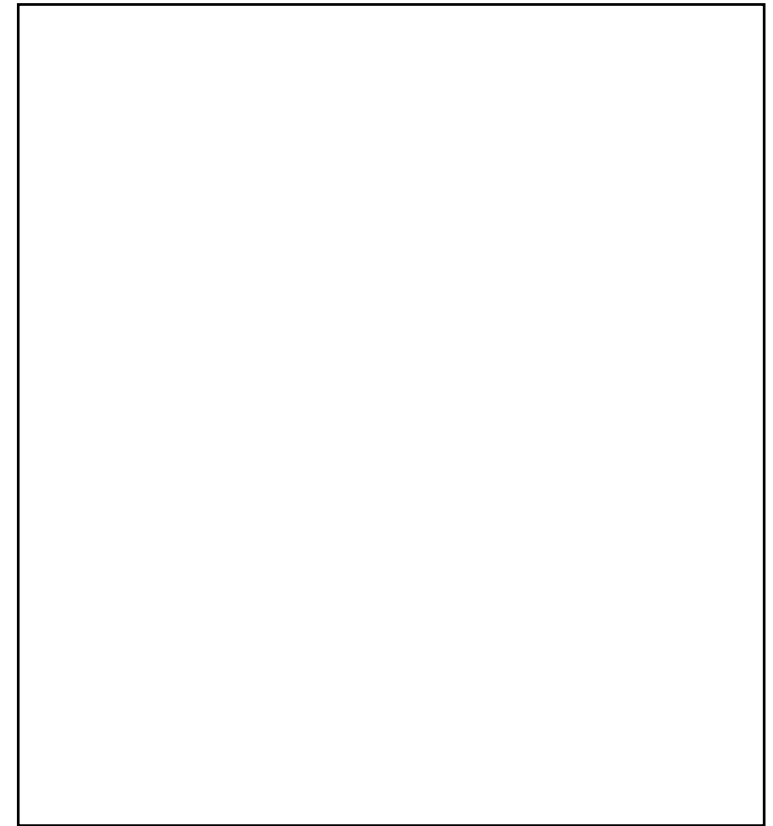
Or maybe I can be a rabbit! I can hop in a field. I don't mind eating hay. Do rabbits eat seeds like me?



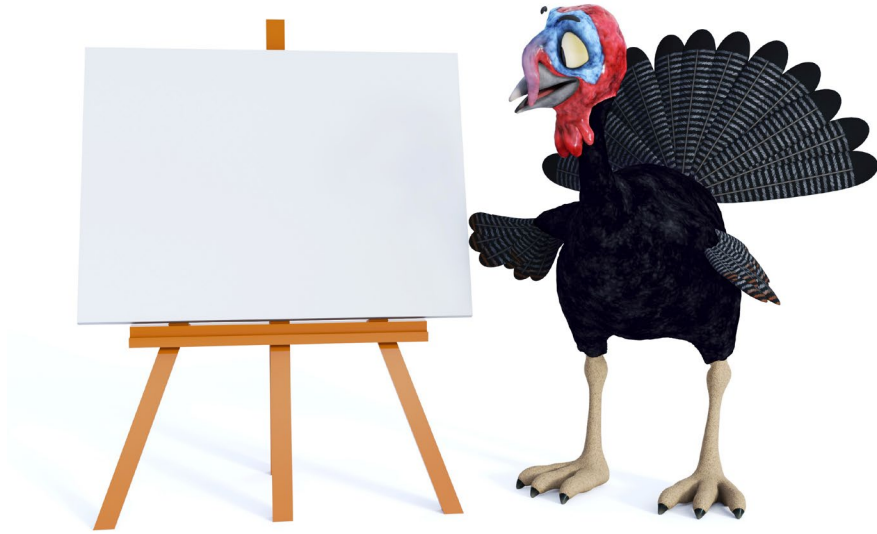
Forget the rabbit! I will be a box of crayons. I'll be safe inside the box while you are at a feast. Maybe I'll draw something while you have dinner.



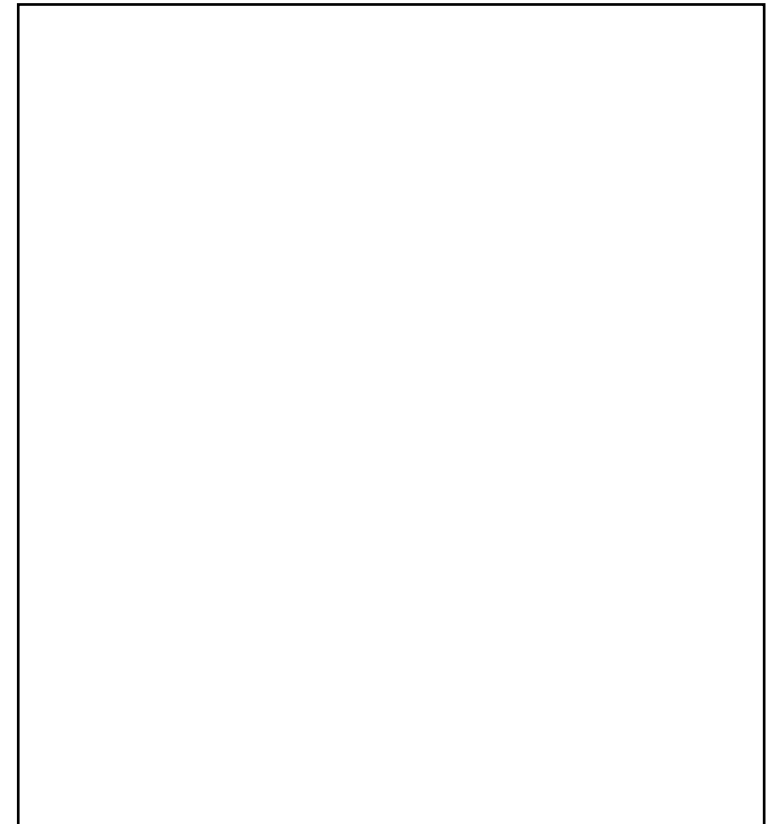
Nope! I will be a snowman. I'll find a snowy hill. Then I will roll down until I am a firm, round ball of packed snow.



Wait. A snowman sounds kind of cool, but chilly. Help! I'm running out of time to hide myself from the farmer.



Did you say that you have found the best costume for me? Can you draw it? Thank you for saving me!



DRAW A TURKEY COSTUME FOR THE TRICKY TURKEY TO HIDE FROM THE FARMER.

Skills: Vowel Teams, Soft C, VCV, Vowel Suffixes

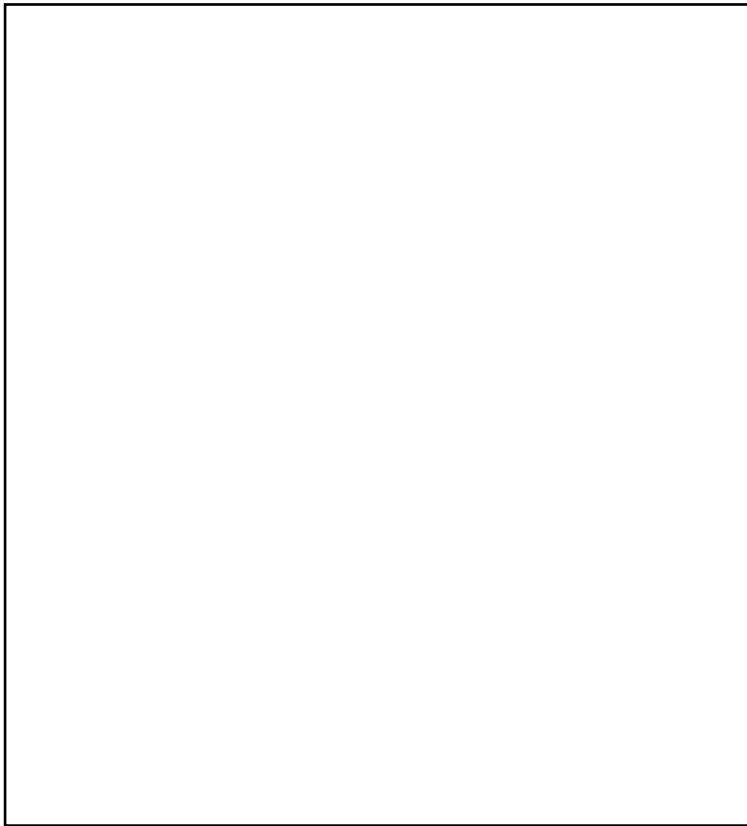
Red words: there, have, they, friend

Question: Why was it probably a good idea to start off with a light jog when the race started?

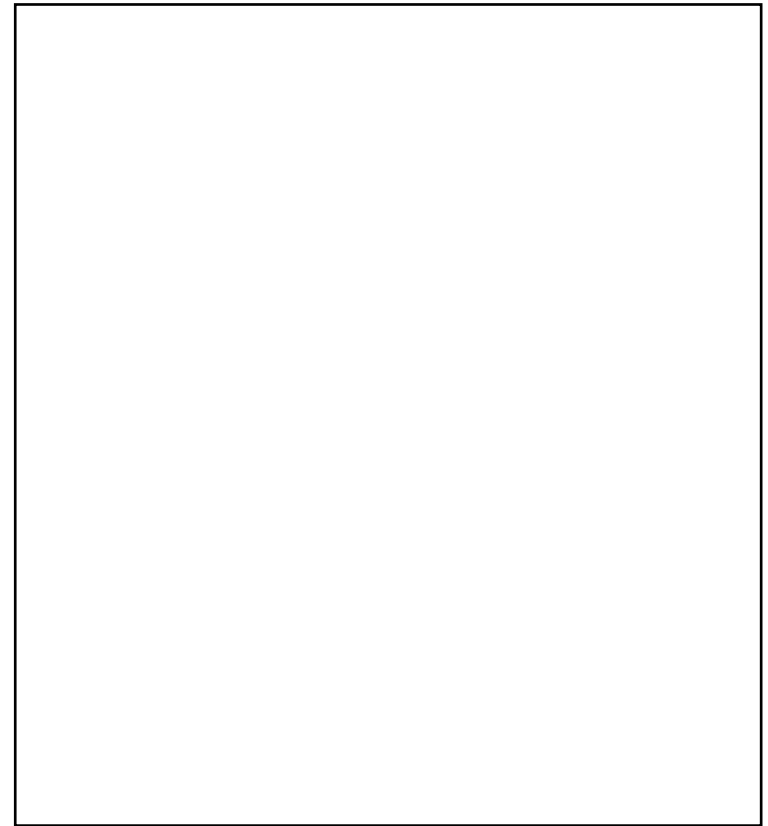


THE TURKEY TROT

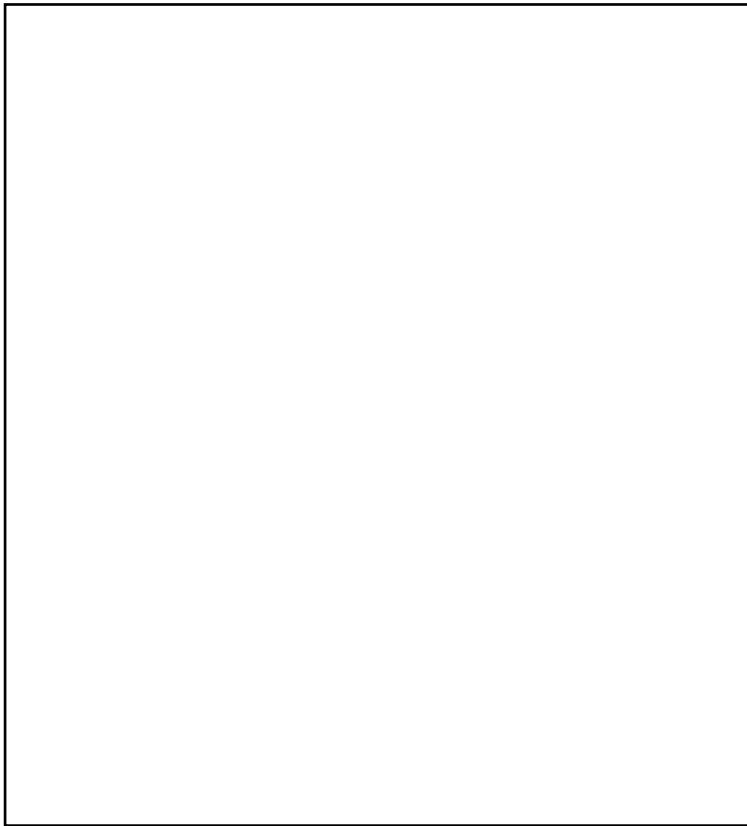
Written by: Emily Gibbons



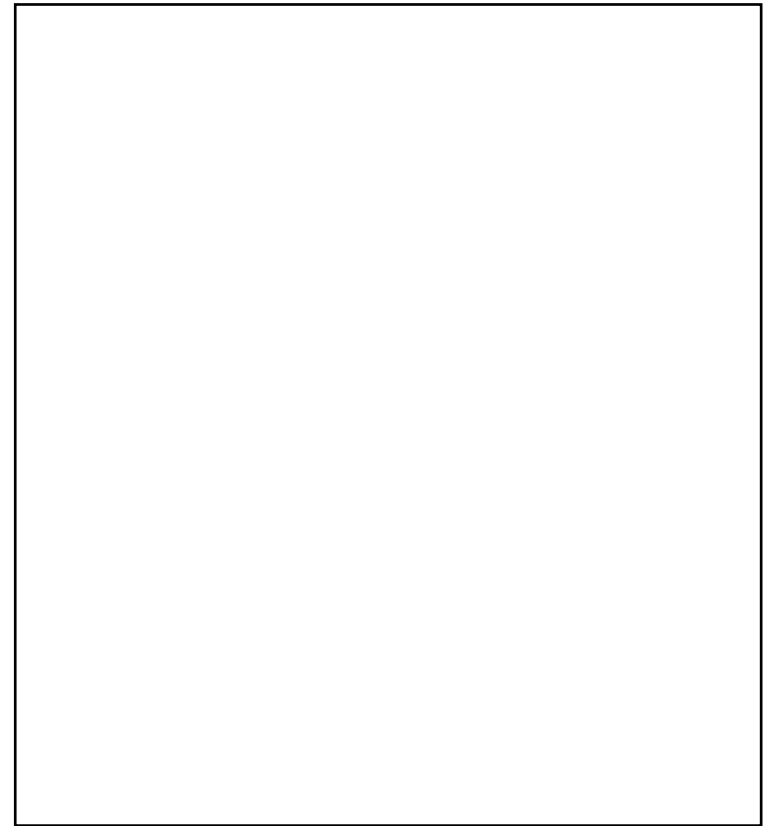
Every November, our city hosts a road race called, the Turkey Trot. It's a 5K race that I plan to run. This is my first Turkey Trot.



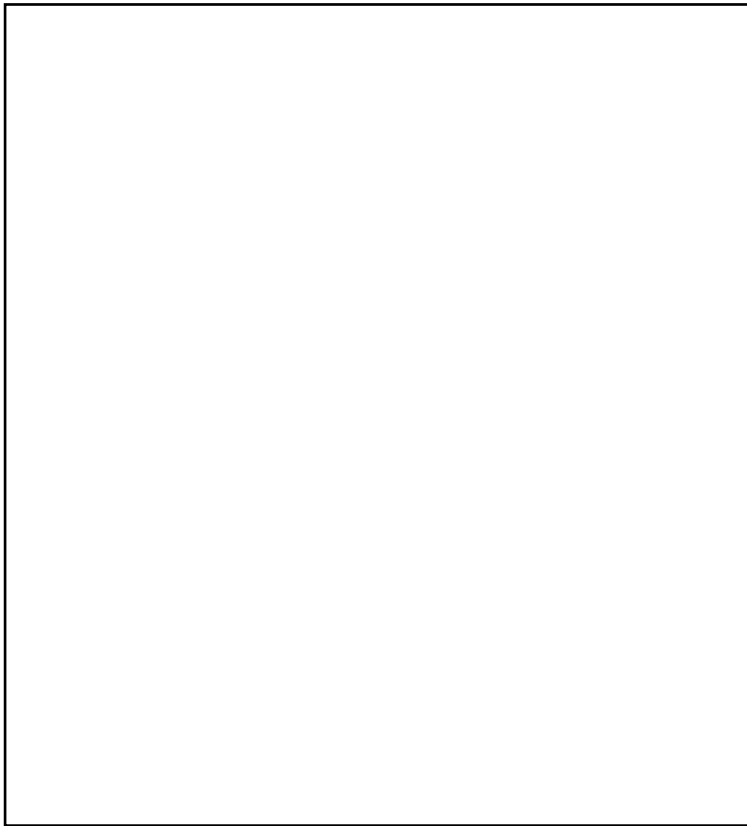
I used an app on my phone to help me train. Each time I went for a jog, there was a set time. With each run, it got a bit harder.



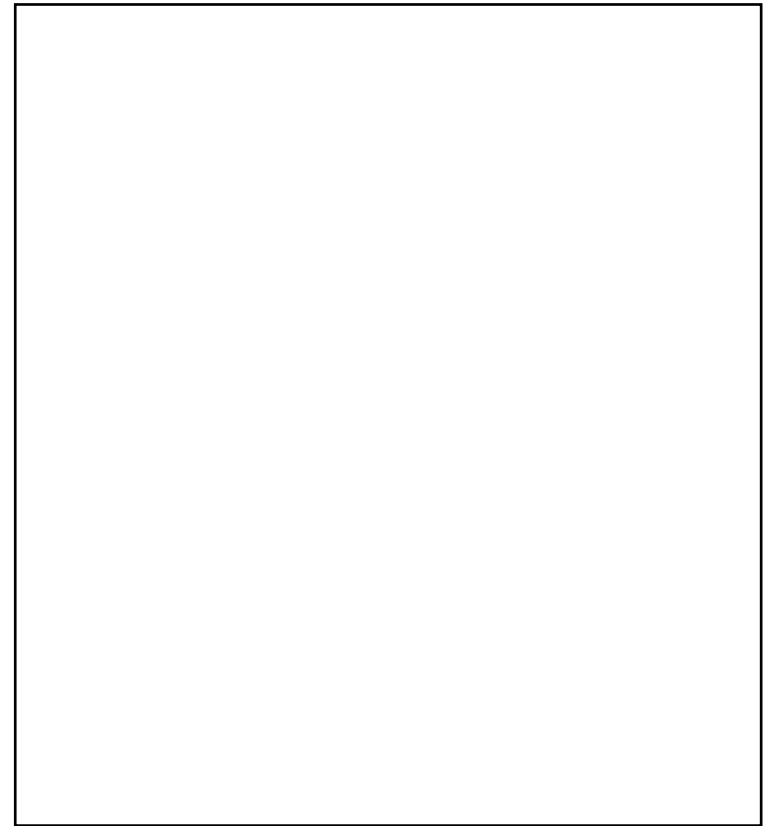
The more I trained, the less hard it became. I was ready for the road race, so I went online to register.



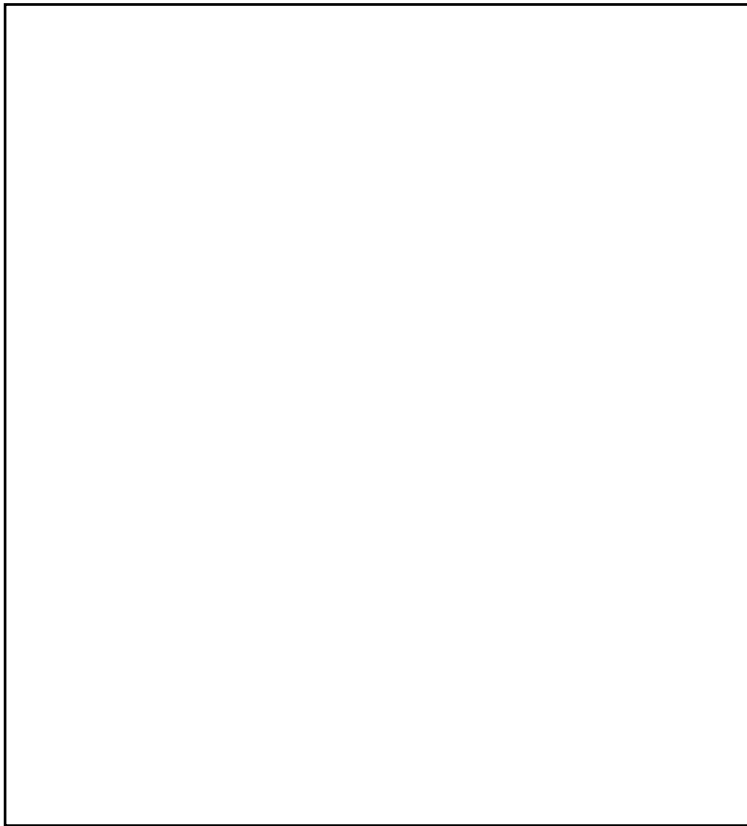
On the morning of the Turkey Trot, my friend sent me a text to wish me good luck. "I'll have a piece of pecan pie waiting for you" they said.



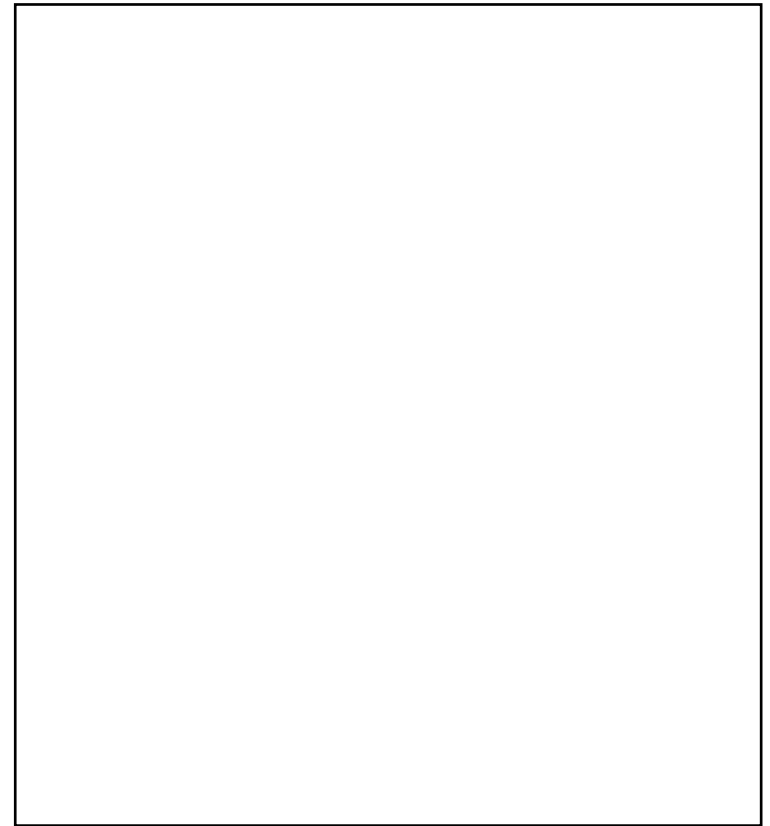
I replied, "Make sure it has plenty of whipped cream on it!" That pecan pie was going to taste so good after the race was over.



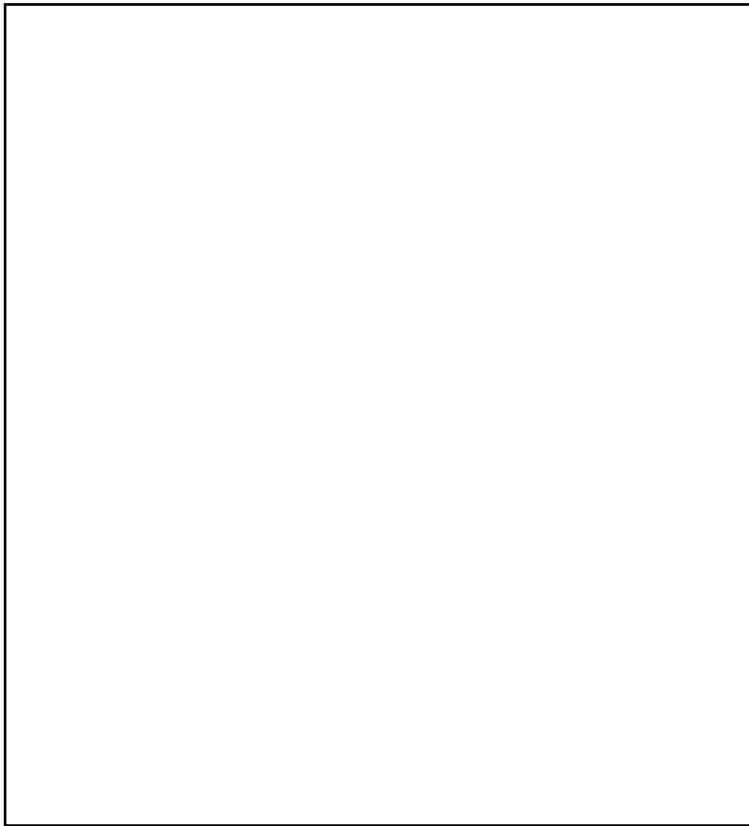
At the starting line, I was a little scared, but ready to go. A buzzer went off! I had to pace myself, so I started off with a light jog.



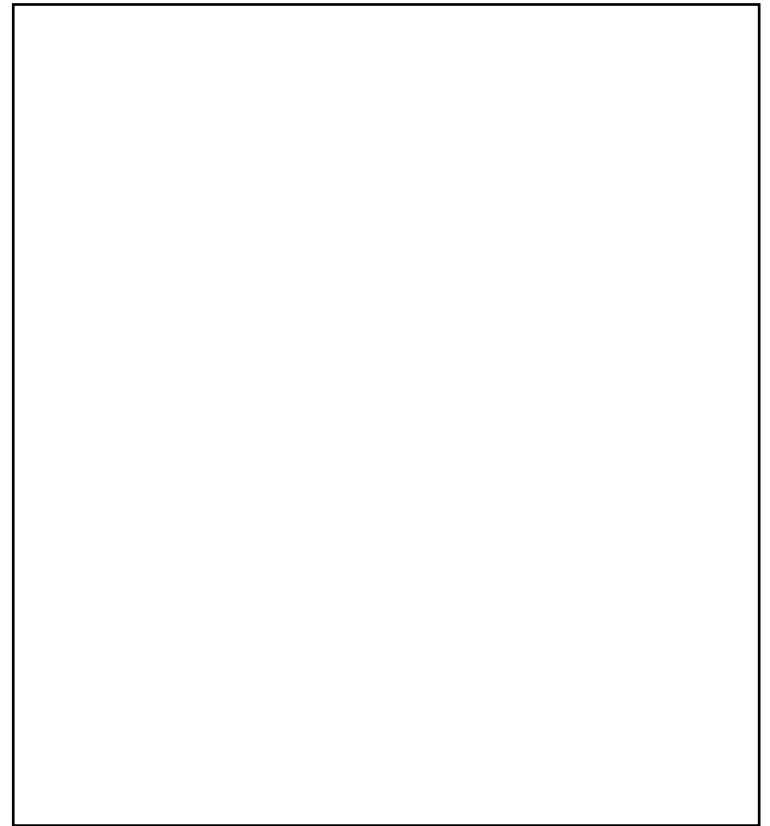
I was nearly to the end, but the hard part was yet to come. A steep hill was calling my name. "You got this," I told, myself. "Keep going."



Hearing the same music in my ears that I had when I was in training helped me get up that steep hill. I could see the finish line and I was getting closer!



Cheers from the crowds on the streets gave me new energy. I pushed myself with all my might and blasted to the finish line.



I didn't win the Turkey Trot, but that wasn't the plan. The goal was to finish my first road race, and I finally made it. That pie was going to taste so great.

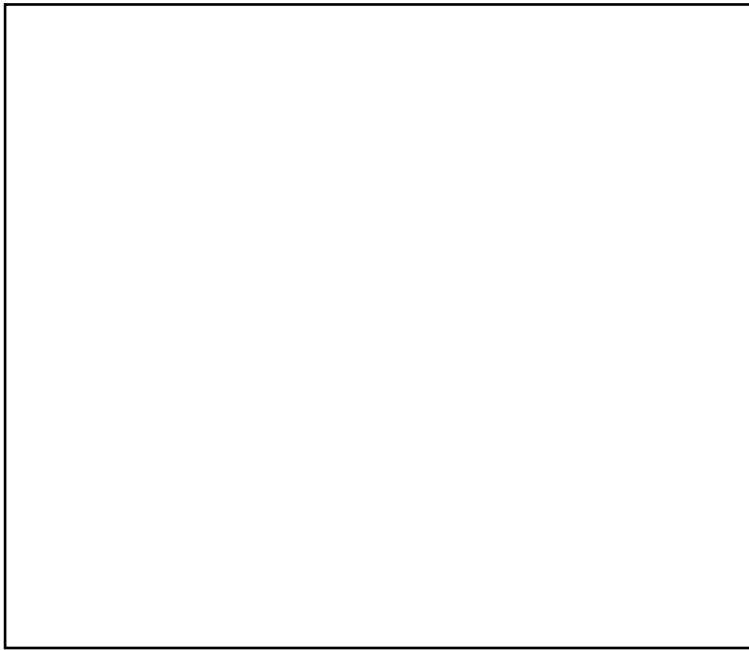
Skills: Schwa A, C+LE

Red words: special, would, sugar

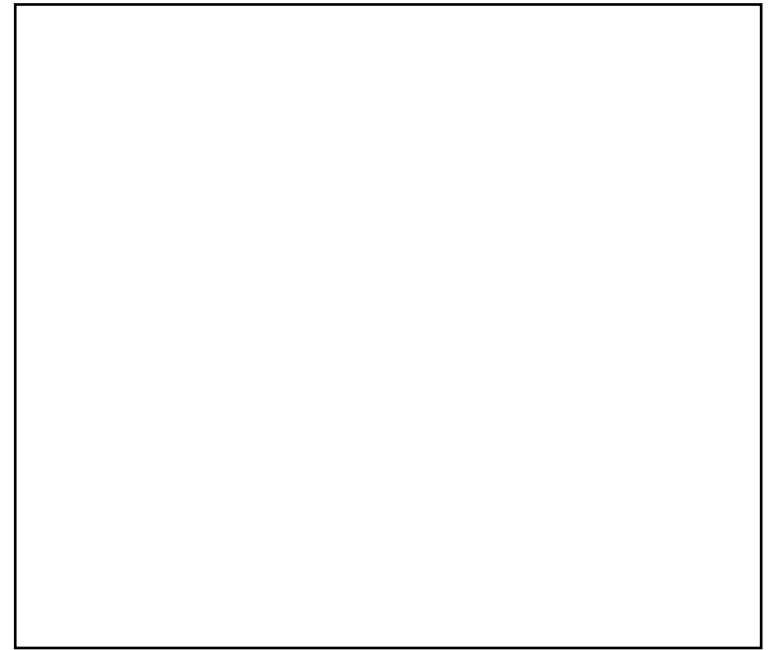
Question: Why was it important for the narrator to continue the tradition?



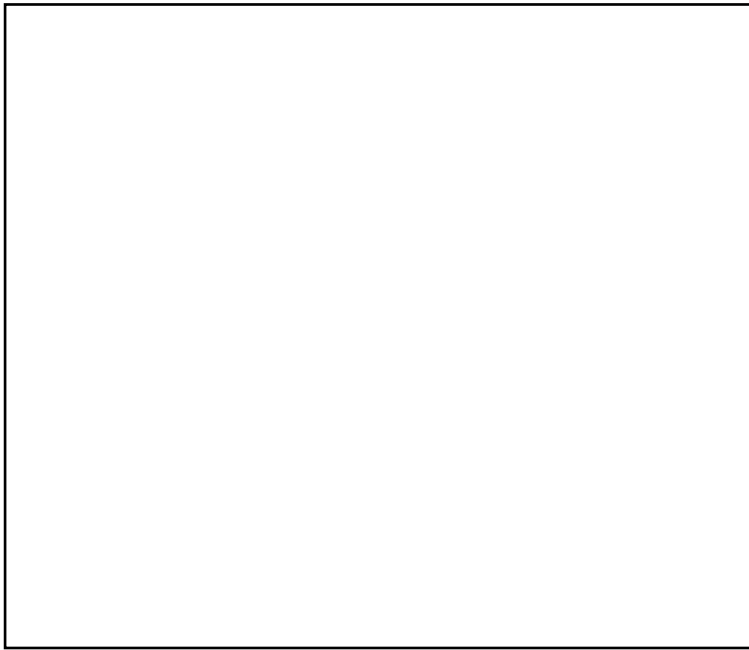
GRANDMA'S TRADITION



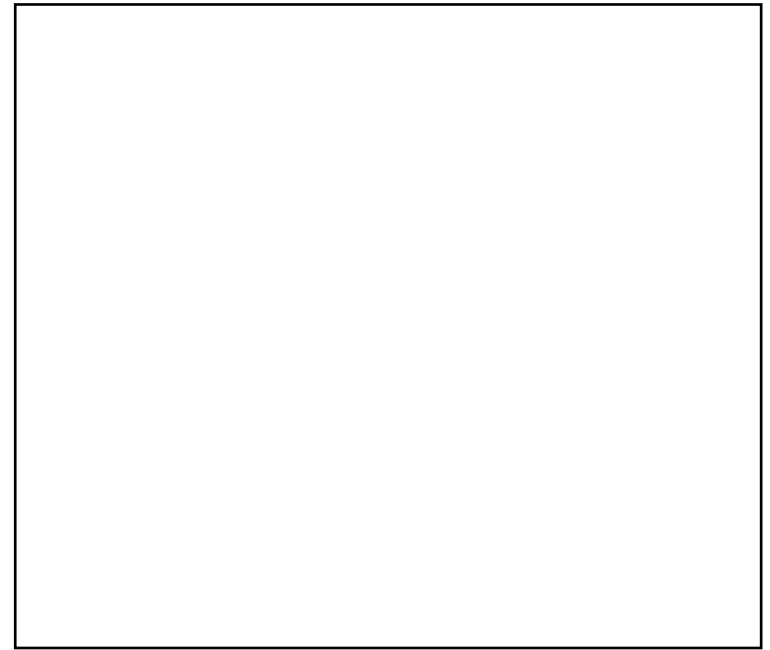
When Grandma was alive, she had a little tradition. She enjoyed baking apple pie. Now it is my turn to continue her tradition. My sister offered to help me bake this special dessert. We'll head to the grocery store.



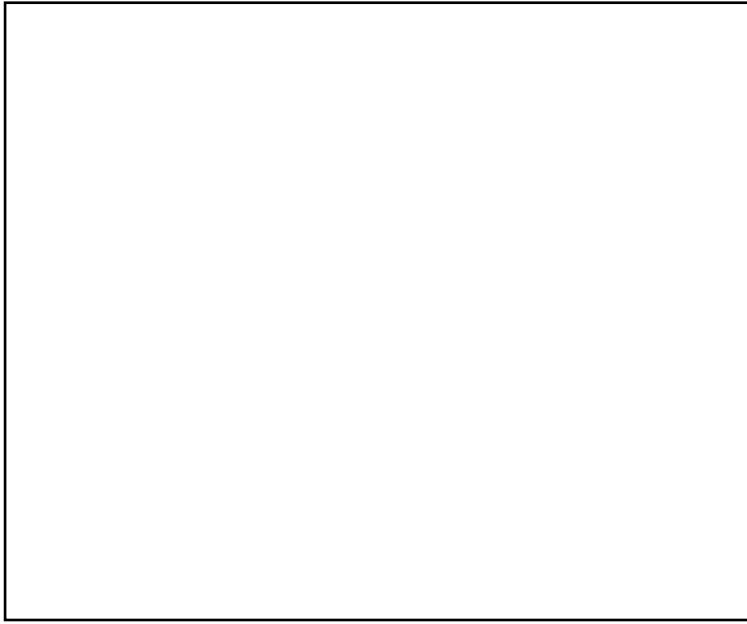
Grandma picked a mix of apples for her apple pie. "Always use some Granny Smith and Cortland apples," she'd say to me as I stood in the kitchen with her. Then she would sprinkle them with extra cinnamon and nutmeg.



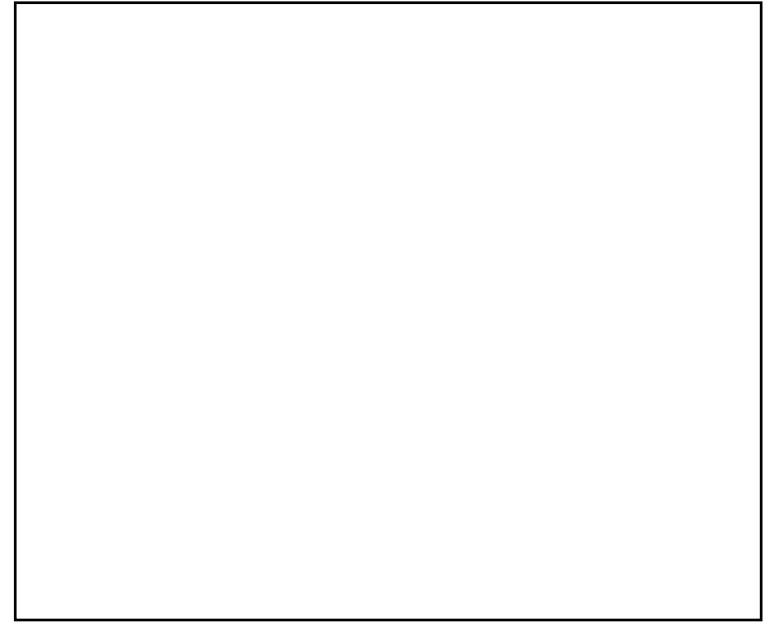
My sister and I found apples, flour, sugar and butter and headed home to bake the apple pie. "Everyone is going to be so surprised when they see our apple pie!" said my sister. I hope it tastes like Grandma's did.



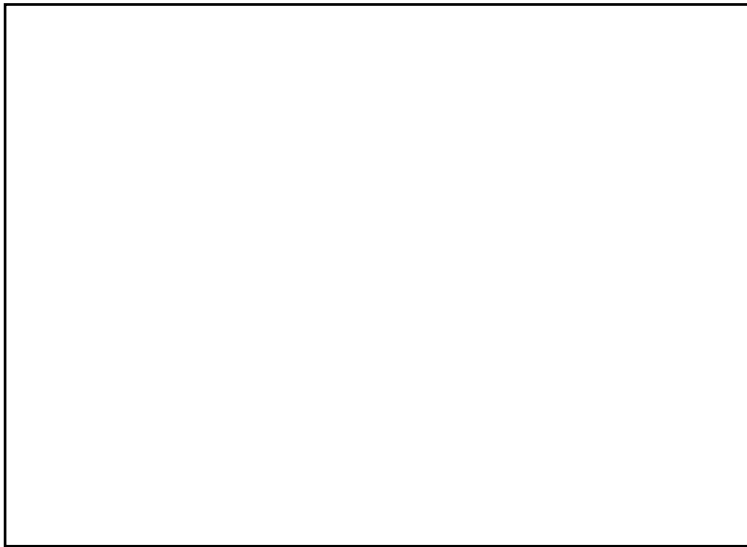
Preparing the crust was a bit tricky. I could hear Grandma's voice in my head as I rolled it out on the table. "Use cold butter, when making the pie crust." She always gave the best advice about cooking.



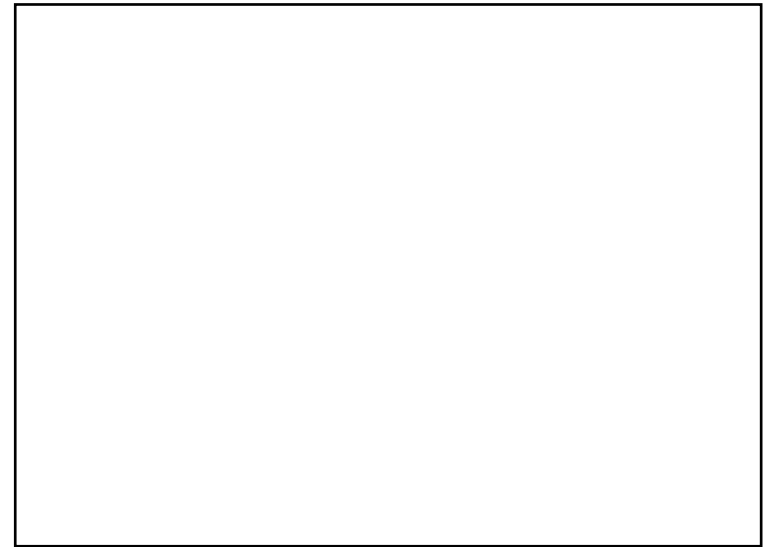
Once the apple pie was baking, we settled down to relax for a bit while it cooked. The aroma was just as I remembered it when Grandma baked. It almost felt like she was back in the kitchen with us. I lit a candle and sighed.



“You must miss Grandma as much as I do,” my sister said. I nodded. Some days felt hard. “That is why we are keeping the apple pie tradition alive!” I said as if I was making an announcement.



Ding! Went the timer on the stove. The apple pie was ready to come out. I was gentle when I took it out and let it cool on the counter. "It looks like Grandma's did!" chuckled my sister. I hope it tastes as good as hers. It was almost time to celebrate.



The relatives arrived and gave us huge hugs. "What is that yummy aroma I smell?" asked my cousin. I set the pie in the middle of the table for all to see. "It's Grandma's tradition!" they all cried with joy. I had a feeling that Grandma was smiling.

Skills: Silent letters, Schwa vowels, multisyllabic words

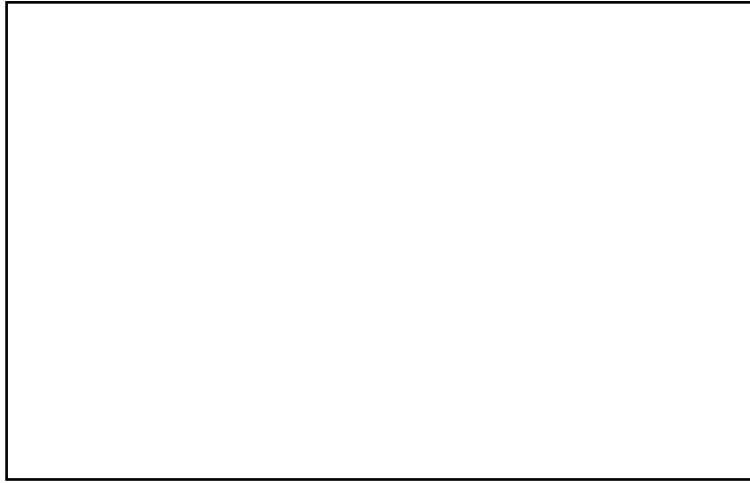
Red words: special, minutes, laughed, coming

Question: Why was the narrator feeling weak at the beginning of the story?

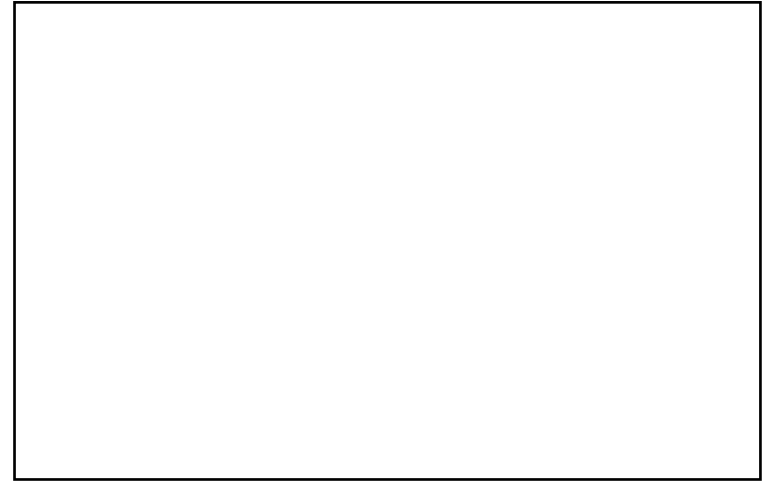


AUTUMN FESTIVAL

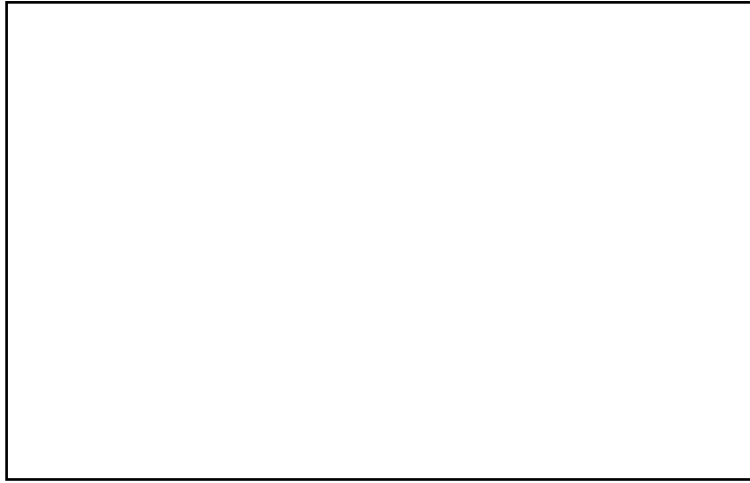
Written by: Emily Gibbons



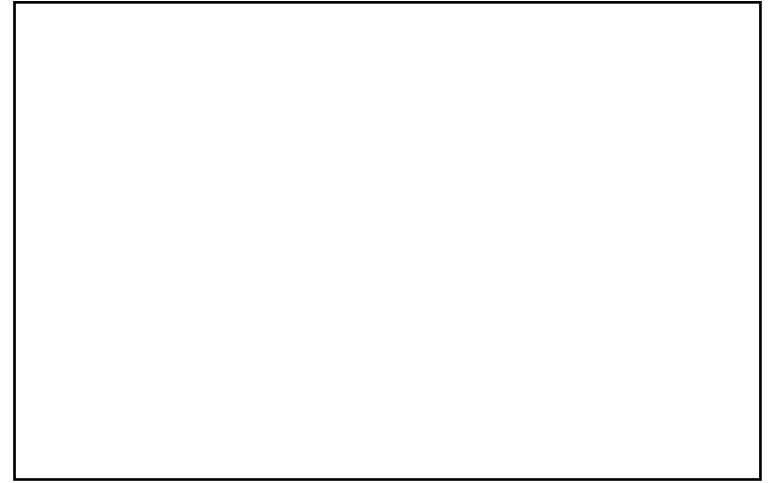
“Are you ready for the Autumn Festival this year?” my friend texted me. I replied with, “Nearly,”. There was still so much work to do. If only he saw the tired expression on my face. My volunteer chef skills were weakening. I still had to finish chopping the potatoes and squash. Then I had to get started on the Mac N’ Cheese.



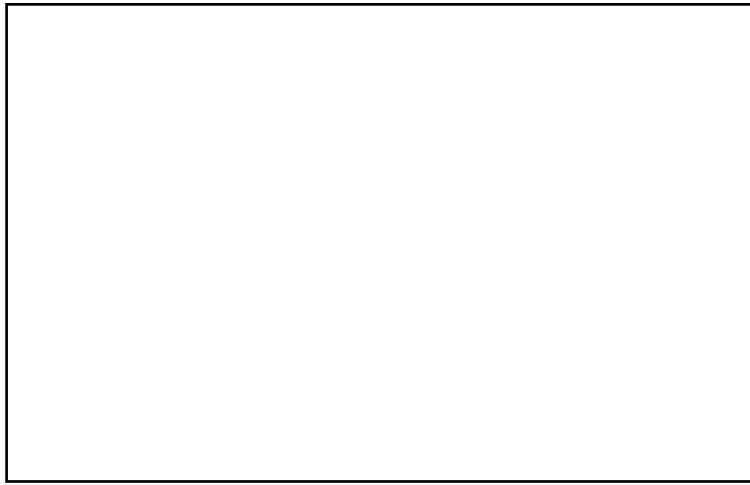
The Autumn Festival was held every year the week before Thanksgiving in our school parking lot. Students could invite a special guest as a sign of gratitude and share a meal. I invited my older brother. He had to travel a long way to get here, and I had to finish cooking before it was time for the festival to begin.



I stuck the Mac N' Cheese in the oven and wrapped up the rest of my cooking just in time. I heard the buzzer go off in my apartment. It was my brother! I let him in the building, and he said, "Thanks for inviting me as a guest. I haven't been to the Autumn Festival in years." We hugged and went upstairs to pack up the food.

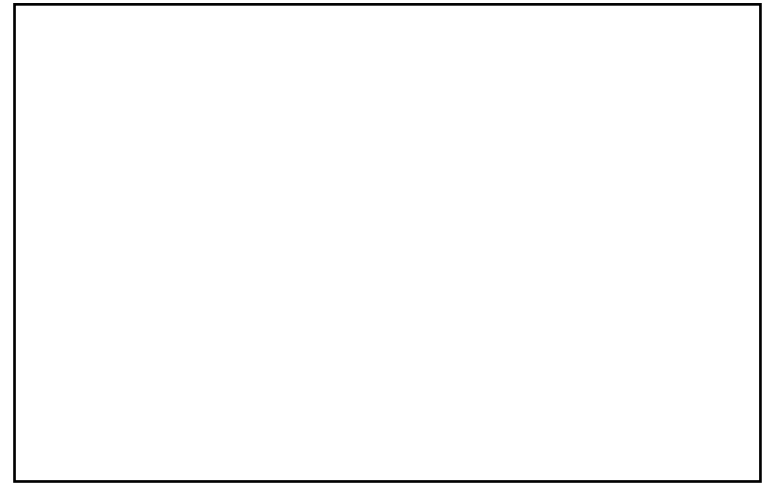


The food was out of the oven and ready to go, but there was one problem. How were we going to transport it to the school? My brother got an idea. "Let's ask Ms. Fay if we can borrow her shopping cart," he said. He knocked on her apartment to ask while I finished packing. In a few minutes, he was back with the cart.

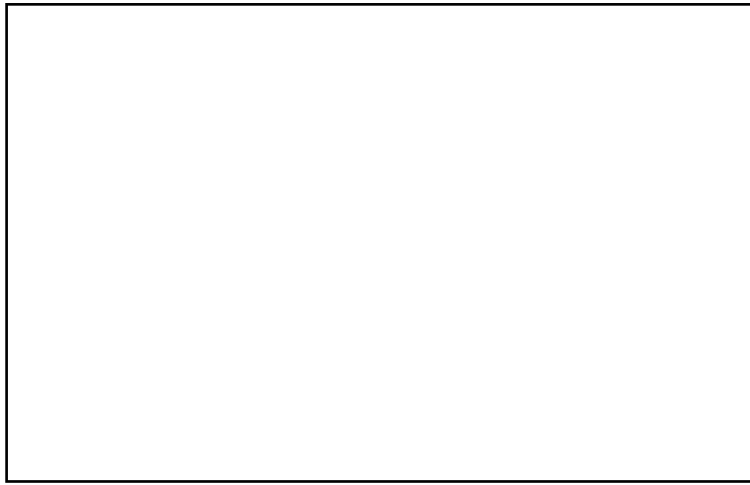


Carefully, we loaded the food into Ms. Fay's shopping cart. "I never knew you were such a chef!" said my brother. I laughed and sighed. "Let's hurry and get to the Autumn Festival!" I said.

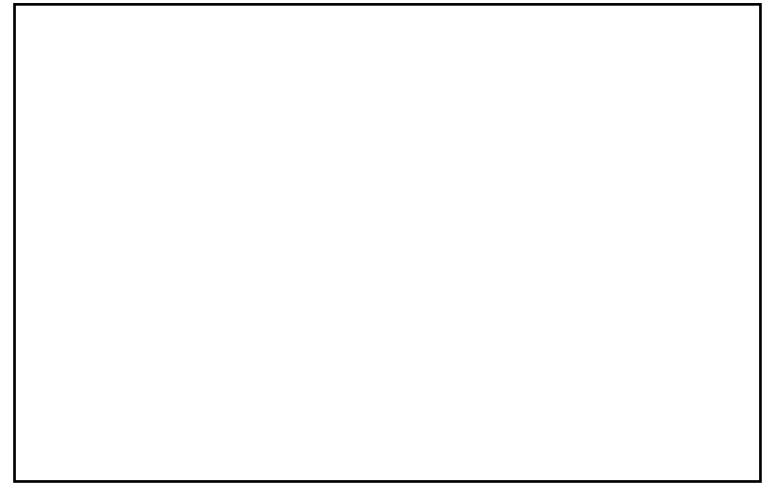
Wheeling the shopping cart onto the elevator, we went down, headed into the lobby and out to the sidewalk. The school was a few blocks away.



When we arrived at the Autumn Festival, we saw an abundance of food spread out. I added my dishes. Our special guests got name tags. Before we sat down to eat, there was a silly contest. Who could create the funniest turkey in disguise? There were craft supplies and glue on the tables. My brother and I made our turkey disguised as a ninja.



When it was finally time to eat, we filled our plates. Then, we sat down next to our guests and handed them the cards we made. Each card was a symbol of our gratitude for coming to the festival. My brother read the note inside and chuckled. "I guess you forgot about all the times I used to tease you," he said with a grin.



When the Autumn Festival was nearly over, we ended it by voting for the best turkey in disguise. Even though our turkey ninja didn't win, we enjoyed laughing at all the other disguises. After we helped clean up, my brother and I headed home with Ms. Fay's shopping cart. "This was the best festival," my brother said. I had to agree.

pan

yam

pot

big

cut

in

nut

ham

add

egg

mix

toss

up

pop

can

go

plan

fluff

chop

test

went

whiff

pulp

grab

whip

just

shell

dip

snack

with

fill

hand

shop

dine

game

Dale

Steve

time

home

list

cake

gave

rest

wish

fast

plate

smile

dish

need

food

need

day

way

week

beans

feel

took

food

card

turkey

shelter

dinner

after

corn

need

food

need

day

way

week

beans

feel

took

food

card

turkey

shelter

dinner

after

corn

turkey

November

farmer

dinner

forget

hard

eat

beak

feast

seeds

round

found

tail

football

player

snowman

road

train

piece

pie

steep

street

wait

crowd

city

race

pecan

myself

over

going

music

finish

apple

sprinkle

table

settle

little

middle

gentle

chuckle

extra

tradition

alive

about

aroma

arrive

announce

cinnamon

autumn

guest

guess

wrap

knock

knew

disguise

weakening

volunteers

potatoes

festival

Thanksgiving

gratitude

apartment

abundance

funniest

GAMES

Laminate both game boards or place in plastic sheet protectors. Use mini erasers or plastic counters for game pieces, and a pencil and paperclip for a spinner, white boards, markers and erasers

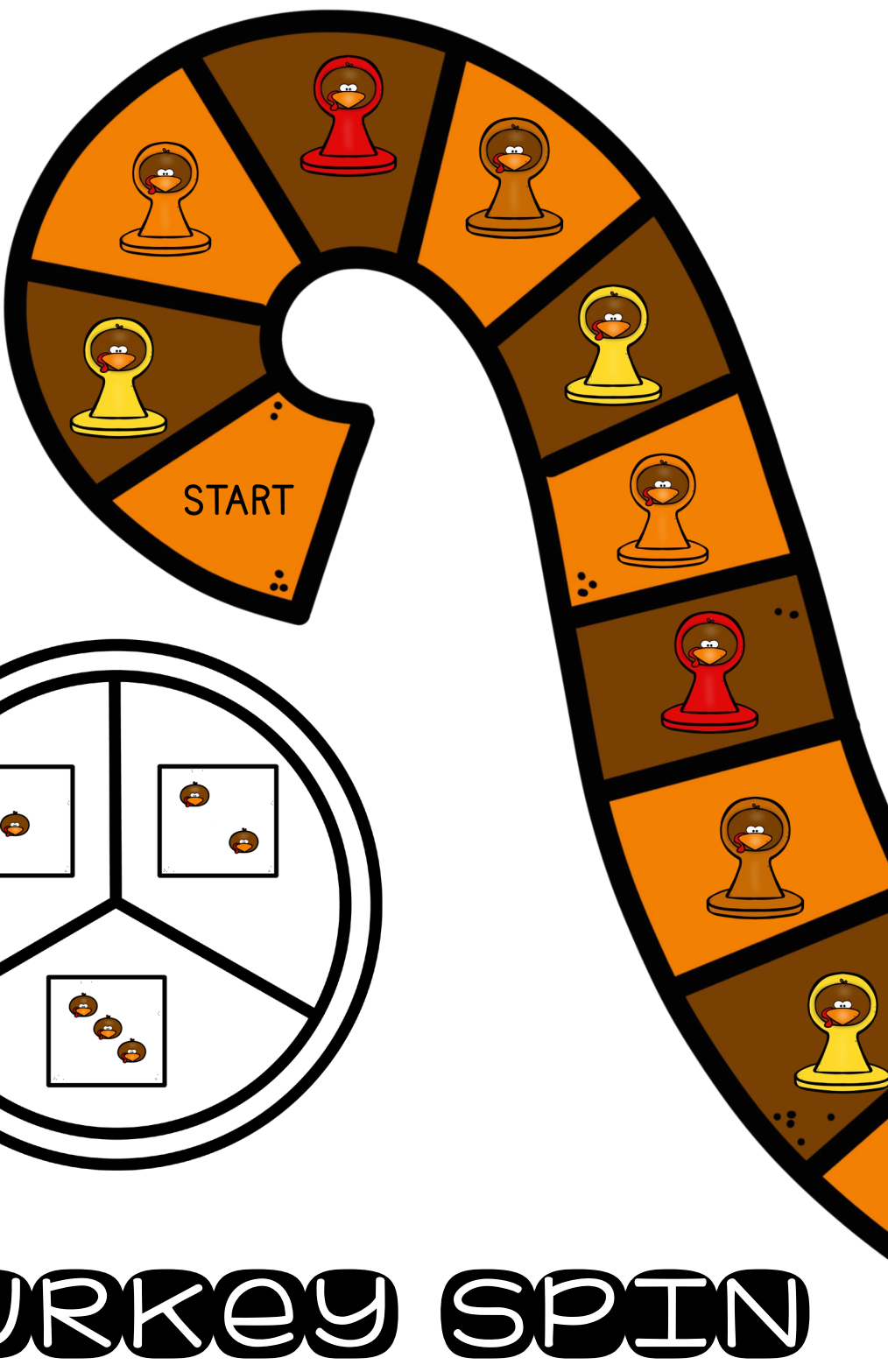
To Play: Place word cards in a deck face down or in a cup.





Game #1

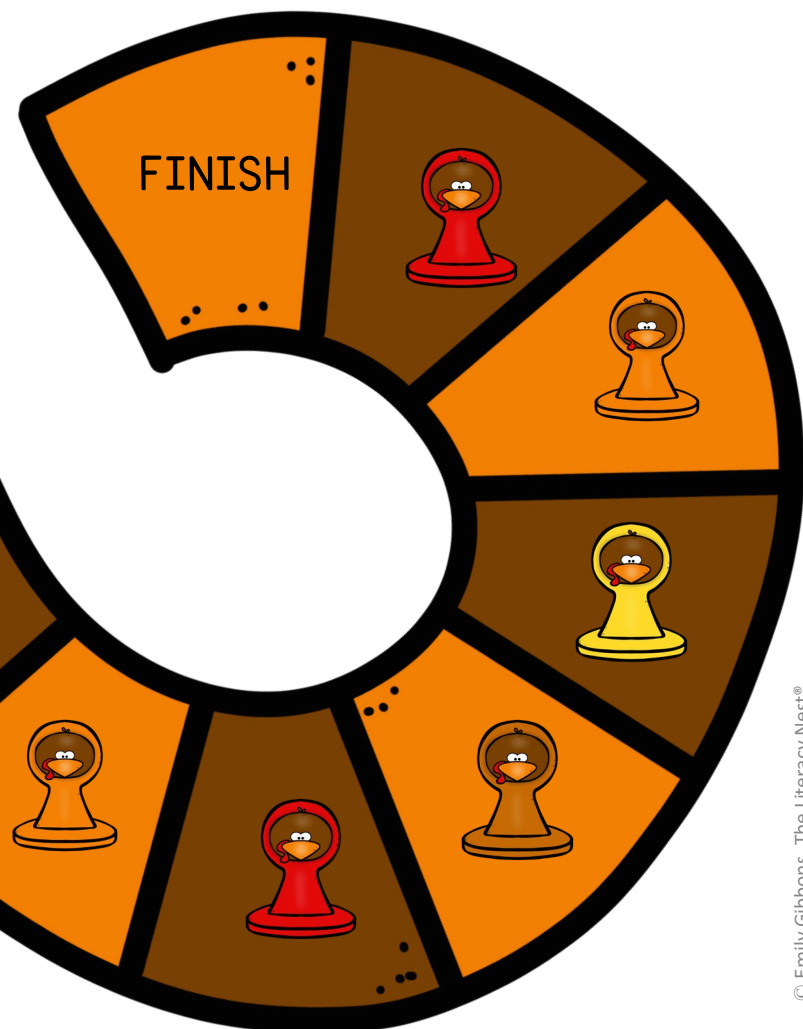
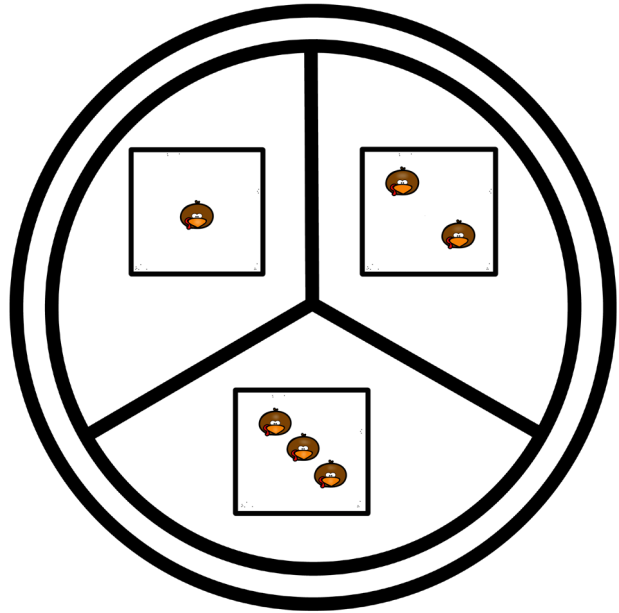
1. Player A- Spin the spinner, while Player B chooses a card to read out loud.
2. Player A-Follow the color-coded turkey instructions.
3. Switch roles.
4. To win: Be the first player to reach the finish space.

Game #2

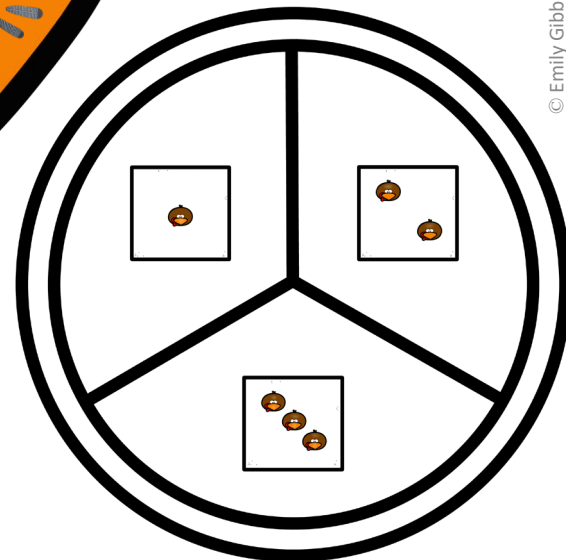
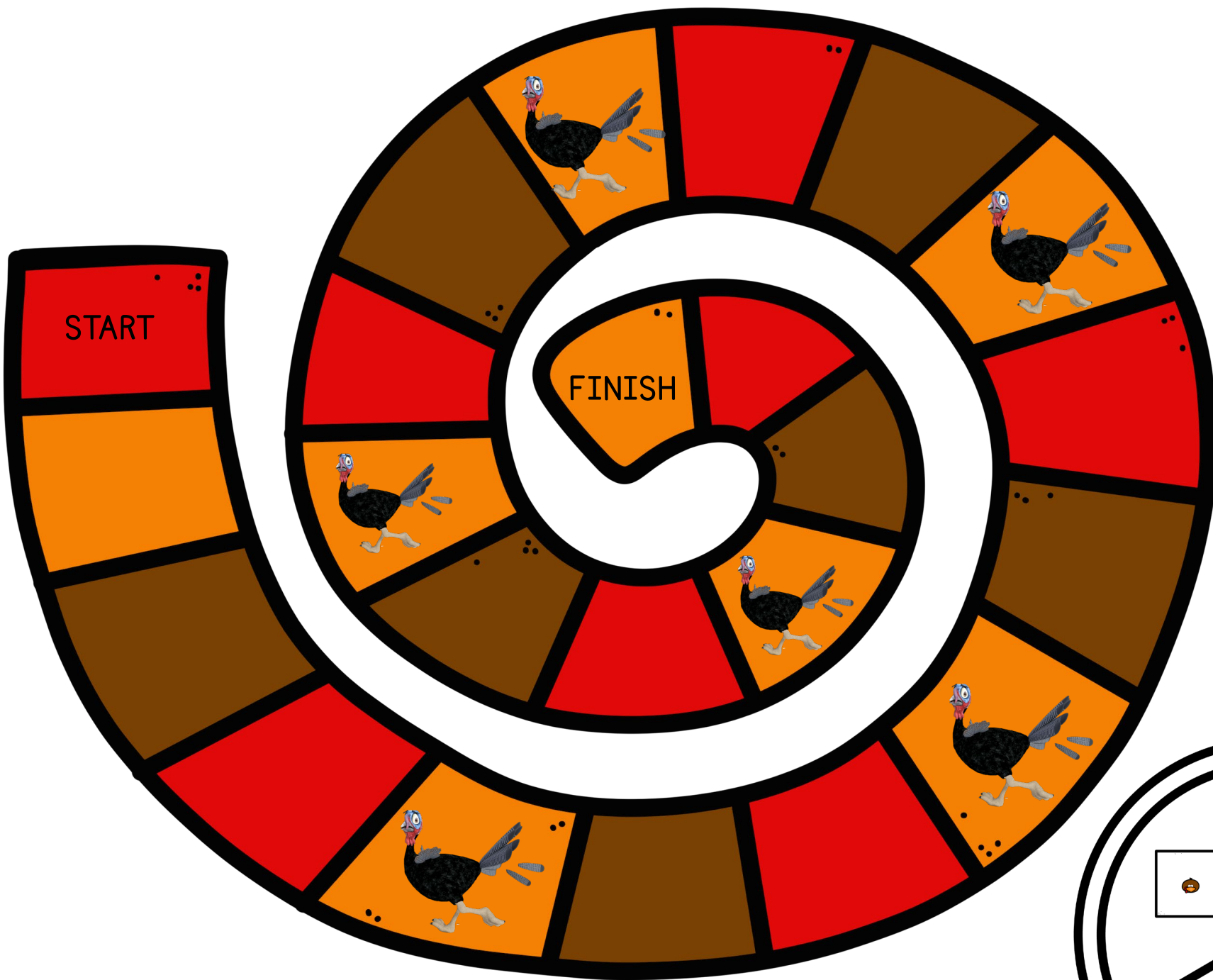
1. Player A- Spin the spinner, while Player B chooses a card to read out loud.
2. Player A Choose an option: spell the word or write the word in a sentence on the white board.
Player B checks.
3. If the word is spelled correctly, Player A may advance on the game board.
4. Switch roles.
5. To win: Be the first player to reach the finish space.
6. Land on the escaping turkey: Go ahead one space.



	Spell it.
	Tap it.
	Sky write it.
	Sentence



TURKEY SPIN



TURKEY ESCAPE

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