

MOOSE MOMENTS

SHORT VOWELS



by Jacqueline Vinesse
Illustrated by Elizabeth Taylor

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ABOUT MOOSE MOMENTS

The aim of Moose Moments is to provide the teacher or parent with a resource for the reinforcement of the various phonograms, syllable types, and spelling rules encountered by the student who is learning to read and write.

A major influence behind this series of books is the organizational system of the Orton-Gillingham approach. This approach has been designed to increase reading success in the struggling reader, notably by arranging the structure of the English language into a sequence of increasing complexity which is then systematically taught. While this series can be used to provide practice for the struggling reader, it is not limited to the student who is experiencing difficulties. Instead, we feel that anyone faced with the task of grasping the complexities of English could benefit from this collection of stories and poems.

Each book consists of a number of stories and poems that have been written to exemplify a particular phonogram, syllable type, or spelling rule. To facilitate instruction, a definition of the concept targeted by each book is provided on the back of the title page. In addition, each story is followed by a list of words that may not be recognized by the student, either because they typically occur later in the sequence, or because they are irregular words. We have also included a small number of definitions, essentially to serve as a quick reference for the teacher or parent.

There are a number of ways in which Moose Moments can be used: as practice reading material, as generators of word lists pertaining to a particular concept, or as a means to explore other areas underpinning linguistic competence such as rhyme, rhythm, and word play. In our view, however, one of the most important ways this collection can be used is in promoting the idea that reading can be fun!

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TARGETED CONCEPT

SHORT VOWELS

Short vowels are the sounds given to vowels when they appear in a closed syllable. Closed syllables have one vowel and end in one or more consonants. The short vowel sounds are: “a” as in apple, “e” as in edge, “i” as in itch, “o” as in octopus, “u” as in up.

A GRAND CAT



Pam, the cat, was a very grand cat. She had bags, she had fans, and she had caps. The best thing Pam had was her hat. It was a very big hat, and Pam got this hat from her dad. Pam, the grand cat, was just daft for this hat.

Pam kept this hat on in cabs. She kept it on at camp. She kept it on when she had snacks. She kept it on when she had a nap on the sand. The cats and the rats and the bats said, "Pam with that hat is so grand!"

One day after Pam's nap on the sand, the hat was gone! Pam gasped. Then she ran and ran on the sand, but the hat was still gone. Pam was in such a big flap.

She ran to ask the cats, "Do you have the hat?" She ran to ask the bats, and she ran to ask the rats. Then she ran to ask Tam-Tam, the panda. No cat, bat, rat, or panda had the hat. Pam was so sad. She sat on the sand and felt very bad.

