

# Frolic in the Forest with Acorn & Friends



## For Parents:

The WinterPromise LA 1 Guide offers additional helps for using this resource. However, we would like to add a note here. Not all first grade students are at the same level of proficiency. For that reason, some students may struggle at first to read an entire section. That's okay. Here are some strategies for tailoring it to your student.

### Strategy 1: Take Turns Reading

As you set out, it may help your student for you to read a paragraph and take turns back and forth with your student. This will be a help, especially as the year begins. As your student progresses, he or she will likely no longer need help after a certain time period.

### Strategy 2: Save Some Reading

Each week includes enough reading for three days, but students should be working on language arts four or more days a week. You can split a long passage into two pieces and read for four or even five days, if you wish.

### Strategy 3: Read Twice Per Day

Split longer passages and do some of the reading at a different time of the day. Complete some after breakfast, and finish it after lunch, for instance.

These strategies should help you give your student the right amount of practice to keep moving forward. In no time, he or she will be buzzing right along!



# Things to Know

How well do you remember the basic phonograms?  
Spend some time reviewing what you learned.

But first, meet a new friend -- Acorn, who lives in Pine Hollow. You will meet his friends and find out all about their lives in the forest!

Hello and welcome to Walnut Forest and Pine Hollow!  
My name is Acorn, and my friends and I are happy to meet you!

We all live in the forest. I'm a squirrel. My two best friends are chipmunks named Dash and Scoot. They are brothers who live near by. They get into trouble from time to time. I like them, as they are a lot of fun! Dash is very brave. He wears a cloth around his neck. Scoot loves to eat almost anything.

Another friend of mine is Tatty the Mouse. She may be shy, but I can always count on her if I need help.

I live in a hole in a tree. Dash and Scoot live in the same tree, but their hole is closer to the ground. Tatty likes to stay near the forest floor. She dug a burrow near the bottom of our tree. The leaves on the trees give our homes color. The grass makes a good carpet!

We are all good friends. You will meet even more of our friends in our stories. I'm glad you are joining our adventures this year!

*Can you write our names below our picture? Follow the clues I've given you to write my name, Acorn, and my friends, Tatty, Dash and Scoot.*



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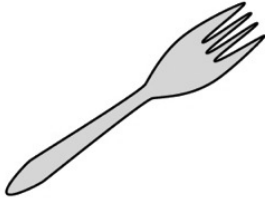
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# ALPHABET REVIEW

Let's begin by reviewing the letters of the alphabet. Below each picture, write the letter the word starts with. Use each letter once. Cross each letter out in the alphabet on the next page as you use it.



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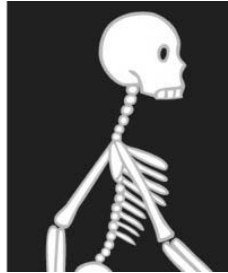
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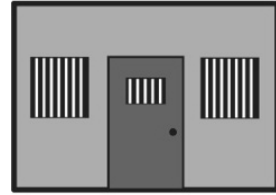
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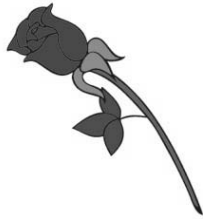
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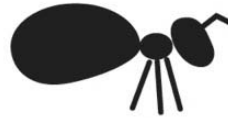
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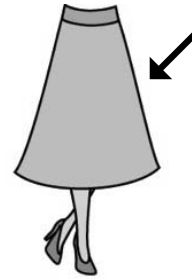
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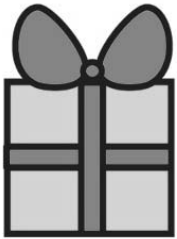
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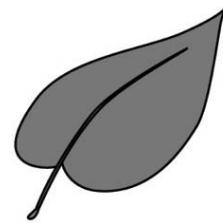
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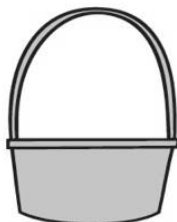
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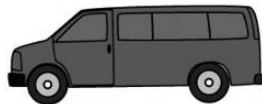
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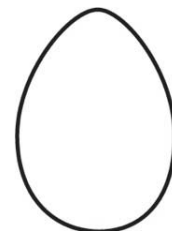
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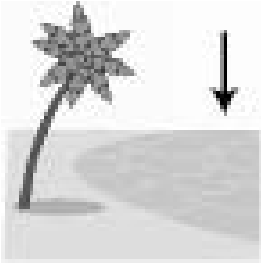


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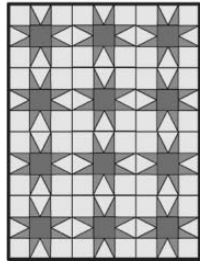
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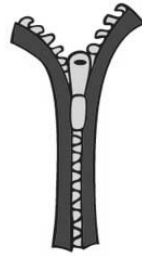
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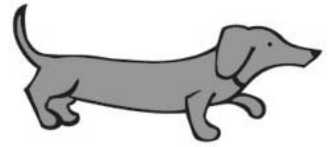
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Handwriting practice lines consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line.



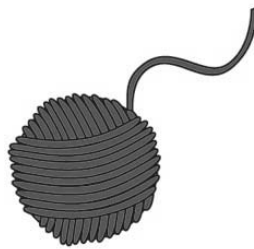
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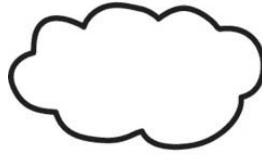
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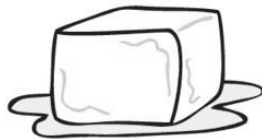
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## MORE ALPHABET REVIEW

Write in or name aloud the words that fit the clue and begin with the letter in front of the blank.



What you spread on warm toast      j \_\_\_\_\_

What a cowboy wears on his head      h \_\_\_\_\_

A young cat      k \_\_\_\_\_

What you do with a book      r \_\_\_\_\_

An animal that oinks      p \_\_\_\_\_

What a fawn grows up to be      d \_\_\_\_\_

It twinkles in the night sky      s \_\_\_\_\_

Leaves fall off of this      t \_\_\_\_\_

The number less than one      z \_\_\_\_\_

All twelve months equal this      y \_\_\_\_\_

The color of grass      g \_\_\_\_\_

Birds use their wings to do this      f \_\_\_\_\_

What you use to clean carpets      v \_\_\_\_\_

Where you sleep each night      b \_\_\_\_\_

You eat this on your birthday      c \_\_\_\_\_

## ANOTHER ALPHABET REVIEW

Write in or name aloud the words that fit the clue and begin with the letter in front of the blank.

The color of a baby duck                      y \_\_\_\_\_

What you breathe every day                      a \_\_\_\_\_

This shines at night                      m \_\_\_\_\_

What you do to a closed door                      o \_\_\_\_\_

The coldest season of the year                      w \_\_\_\_\_

When it's dark, you turn this on                      l \_\_\_\_\_

When something is not outside, it's ... i \_\_\_\_\_

Catch butterflies or fish with this                      n \_\_\_\_\_

If you can't go over, you could go ... u \_\_\_\_\_

You use these to listen                      e \_\_\_\_\_

The sound a duck makes                      qu \_\_\_\_\_





# Things to Know

The critters have traveled far. What will they find at the end of their trip?



## Phonogram Practice

These stories help you practice the phonogram SH with words like shade, sharp, and share.



## New Words to Learn

sash: a wide decorative ribbon or piece of cloth that wraps around a piece of clothing

shrew: a rodent who lives underground and is almost blind

stash: a group of things stored away or kept for later

showered: a group of items that falls down to the ground, covering what is below

# Tatty's Sash

All was quiet in Walnut Forest. The sun shone on a perfect summer day. All was still until the shriek of the little mouse, Tatty.

“My hat!” the short mouse shouted. “My sash is gone from my hat!” Tatty’s hat was very dear to her. She was sad and was crying loudly. The hat was a special gift from her grandmother, Apple Mouse.

Tatty's friends knew she loved her hat. Tatty’s two chipmunk friends, Dash and Scoot, were in the shade nearby. They shoved past a sharp stick to rush to her side. Dash and Scoot gave her a long hug.

“Hush! What is wrong?” Acorn rushed down from his house tree. He had been gathering nuts that fell on the home.

Dash and Scoot were holding Tatty tight. Tatty felt like she was being crushed by her worried friends. She couldn't answer. But Dash could!

“Tatty lost the sash for her hat!” Dash shouted. He let go of Tatty.

“What is a sash?” Scoot asked.

"It ties under her chin and holds the hat in place. She just has to have it!" Acorn said.

"Oh, dear. Oh my! I wish I didn't go into the brush. I must have lost it there, when I was in a rush to get home." Tatty cried. "I'm worried! I'll never find it now!"



“There's just one thing to do,” Dash rashly spoke. “We must find Tatty a new sash!”

Acorn smiled as an idea popped into his head. “I know a shrew who has a stash of stuff. She may be able to help.”

“Where --” Dash began.

“--- do we find her?” Scoot finished.

“She is on the other side of fish pond.” Acorn showed the friends a map in the dirt. “She has found odd things from all around the woods. She collects many things, and I'm sure she would share.

“Do you think she will have a sash for me? Do you think it will be like the one I used to have?” Tatty shook as she spoke.

“She might! Let's find out!” Acorn showed the friends the way they would head.

Scoot hopped on one foot. “I wish it was winter ---”

“-- so we could skate across the pond!” Dash finished with a jump.

“So, what do you think, Tatty?”

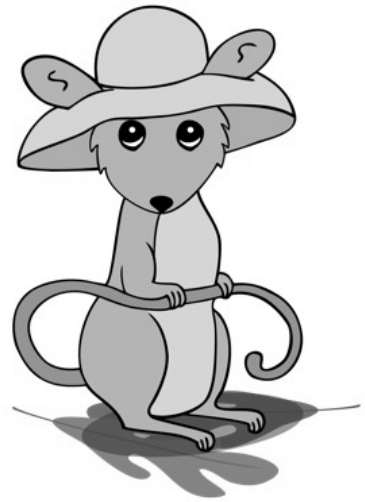
“I want to wear my hat again so-- let's find that shrew!”

Tatty bravely clutched her tail. “Will we find her at home?”



# All About *Tatty's Sash*

From your story, decide which choices are true. Mark all those that are true.



Tatty's sash is . . .

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> part of her hat | <input type="checkbox"/> ugly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> a gift          | <input type="checkbox"/> lost |

Acorn knows . . .

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a shrew            | <input type="checkbox"/> how to find the shrew     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> how to gather nuts | <input type="checkbox"/> how to find the lost sash |

Tatty is . . .

- |                              |                                  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> sad | <input type="checkbox"/> worried |
| <input type="checkbox"/> mad | <input type="checkbox"/> tired   |

# A Scare in the Woods

Tatty lost her sash. Her friends, Acorn, Scoot and Dash felt they could help. Acorn knew of a shrew who collects many things. Scoot and Dash want to go with Acorn and Tatty to see the shrew.

The four animal friends rushed around the fish pond to find the shrew. They ran under bushes and shrubs. They jumped over rocks and branches. The sun shone on the pond water.

The critters stopped to catch their breath. They were all tired from their scurry. Tatty smoothed her fur. Acorn sniffed the ground hoping to find a nut to bury. Dash and Scoot laid on the ground. These two were too tired to do anything else.

A shadow passed above them without a sound! Tatty shrieked! She knew what that was! A crash of broken twigs showered from the sky.

“What was that?” Acorn froze.

“An owl! An owl!” Tatty shrieked, clutching her tail. “It must be!”

Dash and Scoot’s tails shot up in the air. They were shocked. “What should we do?” They yelled. They had never seen an owl before.



“Hide!” Acorn hushed them.

Dash and Scoot were afraid for their lives. They ran around and around trying to find a good place to hide. Dash whisked around shrubs and twigs. He soon found a little hole. Dash sunk into the hole. Then, he grabbed piece of bark from the ground and hid under it.



"Dash! Where are you? Where should I hide?" Scoot was so scared.

"Shh, Scoot! The owl may hear you. Hide under something." Dash said.

"Dash! I can't find anything!" Scoot was running around in a circle. He grabbed the only thing he found. It was a small twig. He held it up to hide himself. He closed his eyes.

It was Acorn who spotted Scoot. The twig didn't hide Scoot at all, of course!

"Scoot!" Acorn whispered. Acorn hung on to the branch of a leafy tree. "Scoot, I can see you --"

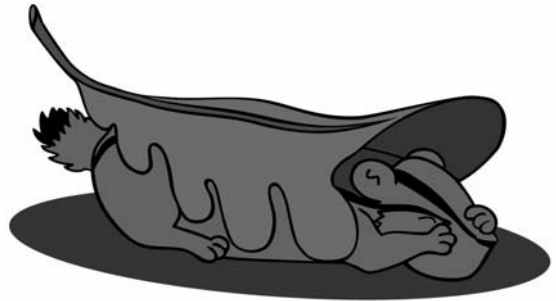
Scoot opened his eyes. His eyes grew big as he saw he was in danger. He dashed to hide under a log, but he could not get under it. He looked for a rock to dig under, but there *was* no rock. Finally, Scoot scurried under a large leaf so only his nose could be seen.



They waited and waited. It seemed so long. Then they heard the terrible screech! The noise was so loud that it drowned out the thumping of Tatty's heart! She had hidden under a large mushroom. Holding a small paw over her mouth, she forced herself to not scream!

Thump! The giant owl landed. His clawed feet shook the ground. Tatty tried not to think about the terrible owl, but it was no use! Again the screech. The owl lifted off the ground. *Swish, swish, swish* went his flapping wings.

Scout closed his eyes. The strong claws were right next to his hiding spot! The leaf rocked back and forth on Scout's back. It was about to fly away with each flap of the owl's wings!



Acorn saw from above that Scout was in danger of being found! He scurried past a large nut on the branches of the tree. His tail twitched very fast. Acorn wanted to help his friend! "What can I do? Can I help Scout from being found by the owl? Oh no!"

## Draw What's Next!

Draw a picture of what you think will happen next in the story.

# A Just-in-Time Nut!

Acorn could see that Scoot was about to be found by the owl. At the last moment, he had an idea! Ahh! He knew what to do! Above his head was a large nut. If he could just tug it loose!

Acorn pulled as hard as he could, and it came free! He could smash it down on the unsuspecting bird! Nut in hand, Acorn got ready to drop it. His tail twitched. His eyes blinked. He counted to three and he dropped the nut!



Swish! Ker-plunk!

The nut hit the owl right between his ears. The owl was shocked! He shook his head. He looked up. Acorn squished up against the tree. The owl did not see him!

Acorn wished really hard that Scoot would try to escape to a better hiding spot. Just then, the leaf that rested on Scoot's back whooshed off! Scoot rushed over to the nearest rock and hid behind it. But the owl did not see him. The owl, scared by the nut, flew off to look somewhere else for dinner.

Dash jumped out from his hiding spot, laughing and rolling on the ground. Tatty climbed over saying, "We should hurry before we meet another---"

"I agree." Scoot said, looking up at the sky.

Acorn climbed down the tree, shushing Dash harshly. "Dash! You shouldn't laugh. Scoot was in danger."

Dash stopped and gave his brother Scoot a hug.

“Let’s go!” Acorn shouted, since it was almost dark.

The four friends scampered around the pond. The moon was the only light in the sky, but they soon reached the shrew’s home. It was at the bottom of a tree next to the river. It looked like it had once been a burrow. Shelly Shrew had improved it a lot! She covered the entrance with a fancy wall of sticks, mud, and leaves. She also created an extra shed with a roof and door and even a glass window in the front.

Scoot and Dash liked it. “Wow!” they whispered.

“It’s like a store. It’s a beautiful shop!” Tatty stood still, amazed.

Acorn noticed a sign with writing on it. “Shelly Shrew’s Stash,” he read aloud.

“We should knock -- ” Scoot started.

“-- and see if she’s home!” Dash finished. He rushed in front of Scoot, and knocked on the door. His smile shone in the dark.

“Do you think this is a good idea?” Tatty shuddered.

“It’s all right, Tatty. She will be kind.” Acorn said.

“I sure hope she likes new friends!” Tatty said, a little shy.



## Write the Word.

Write the answer to each question from the story.

What kind of bird was after Scoot? \_\_\_\_\_

What did Acorn use to scare the bird? \_\_\_\_\_

What did Dash give Scoot? \_\_\_\_\_

What gave the friends light at night? \_\_\_\_\_