

SyllaSense Decodable Texts

Blue Square

Educators have requested supplementary, practice, or take-home resources for students who are currently reading SyllaSense books in their classrooms. These printable texts can be used in many creative ways, including (but not limited to) fluency practice, at-home practice, literacy center activities, informal assessments, etc.

These resources are intended to support literacy instruction for students with access to purchased SyllaSense Decodable Books.

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SyllaSense Blue Series ¹²	Grapheme/Phoneme Correspondence	Orthographic Conventions (Patterns and Generalizations)	Morphology	Punctuation/ Text Features	High-Frequency Words and Content Words
Step 1: ● Sledding ■ So Odd!	- <e>/ē/ (<i>me</i>) and <o>/ō/ (<i>go</i>)	- long vowel phonemes in open syllables		- colon (■ only)	- <i>you</i>
Step 2: ● Fishing ■ Try! Try! Try!	- <y>/ī/ (<i>by</i>)	- <y> is pronounced /ī/ in stressed open syllables			- <i>your</i>
Step 3: ● At the Creek ■ Sleep	- vowel digraph <ee>/ē/ (<i>tree</i>)	- concept of <i>vowel digraph</i> - flexibility with vowel sounds in v/cv words (<i>focus</i>) and vc/v words (<i>visit</i>) ₁₃			
Step 4: ● The Play Day ■ The Class Trip	- vowel digraph <ay>/ā/ (<i>play</i>)	- use <ay> for /ā/ at the end of a base		- contraction <i>let's</i>	
Step 5: ● Recess ■ At a Glance	- <c>/s/ (<i>recess, dance</i>) - consonant digraph <wh>/w/ (<i>when</i>)	- <c> is pronounced /s/ when followed by <e>, <i>, or <y> - concept of <i>marker <e></i>	- concept of <i>compound words</i>		
Step 6: ● Why? ■ On the Trail	- vowel digraph <ai>/ā/ (<i>tail</i>)	- complete English words do not end in <v>, so a marker <e> is added			- <i>do</i>
Step 7: ● River Otters ■ Muskrats	- <er>/er/ (<i>otter</i>)	- concept of <i>r-controlled vowel</i> - <o> is often pronounced /ū/ when followed by /v/ (<i>love</i>)	- suffix <-ed> as adjective (<i>webbed</i>)		
Step 8: ● Sports ■ Paint	- <or>/or/ (<i>sports</i>)				- <i>are</i>
Step 9: ● In the City ■ Trains	- <y>/ē/ (<i>city</i>)	- <y> is pronounced /ē/ in unstressed open syllables		- hyphen (■ only)	- <i>from</i> - <i>one</i>
Step 10: ● Bobcats ■ Stingrays	- <a>/ā/ (<i>baby</i>)	- <ild>/īld/ (<i>mild</i>) - <ind>/īnd/ (<i>find</i>) - <old>/öld/ (<i>bold</i>) - <ost>/öst/ (<i>most</i>)			

So Odd!

Written by Lee-Ann Lear

It is odd to spot things you did not expect. It can be fun as well!

This fish has no legs, but it can jump! It is odd to spot a fish jumping across the mud.

This crab is SO big! It is as big as the man swimming next to it. We did not expect to spot such a big crab!

Fun fact: Pigs can swim! It must be odd to go swimming with pigs.

Dogs tend to think running is best, but not this dog. With a small push, he can go so fast!

Did you expect to spot a skunk with its back legs up? We did not. If you spot this skunk, stand back!

This cat flipped! She thinks it is odd to spot things with the bottom at the top.

It is fun to spot things you did not expect.



Try! Try! Try!

Written by Lee-Ann Lear

Adding to your skill set can be a big job. You must try, try, try!

Maddox is trying to get to the top of the rock wall. He grips with his hands, but he falls a lot.

"Push with your legs, Maddox," said Dad. "That will help you get to the top."

"My legs help a lot," said Maddox. He is just shy of the top, but he slips and ends up hanging by his hands.

Maddox and Dad flop on the mat. "Stretch, and rest your legs a bit," said Dad. "That will help you get your strength back."

Maddox rests, then gets up and runs back to the wall. Grip by grip, step by step, he is going up.

Go, Maddox! Yes! Maddox taps the top of the wall.

It was a big job, but Maddox kept trying, and he did it!



Sleep

Written by Lee-Ann Lear

We all need sleep. This dog's bed is soft and snug.
Shhh . . .

Not all beds need to be soft. You can even sleep with
no bed at all!

This bat hangs to sleep. His wings mimic a blanket.
Hang on, bat! His grip needs to be strong to keep
him on the branch.

This puffin is trying to sleep on a steep cliff. The cliff
is open to the wind, but his wings seem to keep him
snug.

Is this big cat sleeping in a tree? Yes! He will not fall
off. His hanging legs will keep him on the branch.

Ducks can sleep standing up! This duck is sleeping with
a leg tucked in its wing.

Sleeping on a rock is not soft, but it helps this mom
keep watch. In a split second, she can jump up to
protect the cubs.

We all need to sleep.



The Class Trip

Written by Lee-Ann Lear

Miss Tay's class went on a trip. A path led them all the way to the pond.

The kids stopped at the edge of the pond. "Let's try to catch a fish," said Sky. "Grab your nets!"

As they dipped the nets, a frog hopped next to Jay. He picked up the frog, and it stayed in his hand!

Miss Tay grabbed a glass and dipped it in the pond. The kids ran to see. Grayson spotted a green bug on the rim of the glass.

Grayson put his hand next to the bug. It stepped off the glass and lay on his open hand.

"Let's keep going," said Miss Tay, and she went with them to the tall swaying grass.

Sky spotted a nest of ants, a buzzing bee, and a praying mantis. They all blended in so well!

It was a grand day to visit the pond!



Recess

Written by Lee-Ann Lear

If you just glance, you may miss things. Which tree trunk is not a tree?

Can you spot the timid chipmunk? He is shy, so he stays hidden within the log.

A quick glance will miss this big cat. Since she has spots, she blends in with the grass and rocks!

When you rush, you can miss things. You may pass by this fence and not even notice the moth. The cracks in the fence match its wings!

Rest a moment by this sunlit plant. Can you spot the bee? Bits of pollen dance into the wind when she lands.

You may catch a whiff of this skunk, even if you cannot see him. He excels at staying hidden.

If you stop on the pathway next to this plant, you may see the bug. He wants lunch, so he will stay still until a fly lands.

Stop a moment.
You may spot the best things!



On the Trail

Written by Lee-Ann Lear

Zain, Lance, Mom, and Dad went to visit a local trail.

The main trail had a steep stretch. "Dad has the big backpack, so let's give him a hand," said Mom.

When they spotted things along the trail, they stopped. "Do you see the snail shell?" asked Zain. "It's so big!" He set the shell on the moss next to the path.

Lance spotted a small bug sitting on a tree trunk. "It lives in the tree," said Mom, and they watched it run off.

They stopped to have a snack just as raindrops began to fall.

"Do you want my jacket, Zain?" asked Mom. Zain put it on. It was big, but it kept the rain off.

Lance spotted a log lying across the trail. "Do you want to cross with me, Dad?" asked Lance. Dad wanted to try, but he needed a hand.

The trail ended at a massive cliff. It was the best day!



Muskrats

Written by Lee-Ann Lear

Muskrats love water, so they live by ponds, rivers, and wetlands.

A muskrat has webbed back feet, and its long, thin tail is covered in thick skin. Its webbed feet propel it in the water, and its strong tail helps it to steer.

Muskrats feed on mixed plants such as cattails, reeds, grass, and ferns. They can also catch small fish and crabs, but they prefer plants.

A muskrat has a sweet “musk” smell. This strong smell alerts all muskrats to its presence.

Muskrats may put up a lodge to live in by stacking cattails and reeds above the water.

The entrance to the lodge is under the water, which helps protect the muskrat.

In the spring and summer, muskrats have litters of kits. In the beginning, a kit cannot see. It needs its mom to feed and protect it. Within six weeks, a kit can live all by itself.

Have you ever spotted a muskrat?



Paint

Written by Lee-Ann Lear

Painting is a fun way to express yourself. You can paint in all sorts of ways.

Loren is painting with a brush. She is painting a butterfly that she formed with clay.

You can also paint with your fingers. Fingerpaints are often kept in short pots. Dip your finger into a pot to get the paint.

If you want less mess, try water paints. Dry pucks of paint are kept in plastic trays. The paint is formed by adding water to the pucks.

Thin paint can be brushed across a canvas to form an overcast sky or a sunset. Thin paints blend well.

Paints can also be thick. You can splatter, fling, or drip thick paint onto a canvas. Splatter painting is fun to watch. You may want to stop and observe as the paints are mixed.

Globs of thick paint give depth to this painting. You need to stand back in order to see that the finished painting is . . .

. . . a forest in the fall!



Trains

Written by Lee-Ann Lear

Trains can be a quick way to get from one spot to the next.

Trains run on rails. If you study the wheels on a train, you will see a ridge on one edge. This ridge keeps the wheels on the rails.

If you spot a set of train tracks, you must watch for trains. A big **X** will alert you that a train may cross.

Nobody loves being stuck in traffic, so trains in the city often go under the street. A city train has plenty of spots to sit or stand.

Trains can speed up as they exit the city. You can travel from one city to the next in a blink.

A long-distance train will have a spot for your bags, and often you can get a drink or a snack.

Have you ever seen a train with a glass top? From the glassed-in deck of this train, you can sit and watch the trees and rivers as you pass by.

Trains are one of the best ways to travel!



Stingrays

Written by Lee-Ann Lear

A stingray is a kind of fish. Most stingrays live in salt water and are bottom-dwelling.

Stingrays have long, flat fins. A stingray may seem to fly in the water, flapping its fins as it swims. A stingray's tail is thin and can swish back and forth.

The body of a stingray is flat, which can help it stay hidden. A stingray can hold still and blend in with sand or coral under the water.

A stingray may "sting" to protect itself, but most are mild-mannered and prefer to swim away.

A baby stingray is called a pup. A pup is born with basic skills. From the moment it is born, a pup can hunt for itself.

Stingrays feed on a host of mixed shellfish such as clams, crabs, and mussels. A stingray may "tent" its body to catch a shellfish by pinning it to the bottom.

If you are swimming in waters native to stingrays, you may spot one. Stingrays in the wild are shy, but most do not mind if you swim by.

Have you ever seen a stingray?

