

Mary Is In This Story



Played

Sam and his friends played. They played with a ball. They played in the sand. They played with a dog. They went down the slide.

They had a great time.

Fleisch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.8
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Robot

"Can I have a robot?" said Cody.

"A robot could play games with me."

"A robot could read books to me."

"A robot would be neat."

Fleisch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.7
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Saw a Cat Look

"I saw a cat look at a bird. I saw the bird look at the cat," said Sam.

"I don't know what they could have been thinking. Cats and birds are usually not friends."

Fleisch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.9
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Airplane

"When I get older, I want to learn how to fly an airplane," said Sam.

"I will fly it up into the sky and look down on the world. It will be so fun."

Fleisch-Kincaid Grade Level 1.7
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Cody Went to a City



By Clark Ness

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Reading Level: Fleisch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.4

Fiction



Falling Star

One night Cody was outside with his dad.

"Help, help!" they heard from up in the sky.

"Look, Dad. A star is falling," said Cody.

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Collection 5

60 single page stories, 6 ebooks,
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By Clark Ness

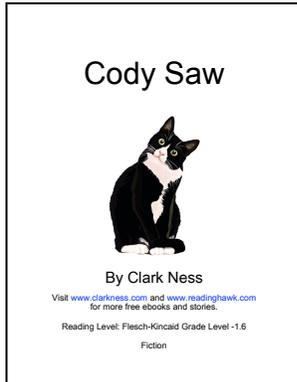
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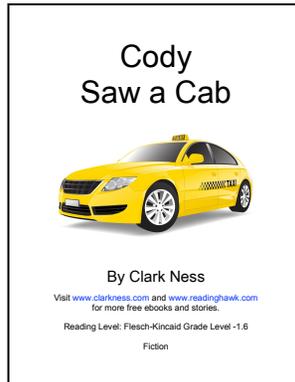
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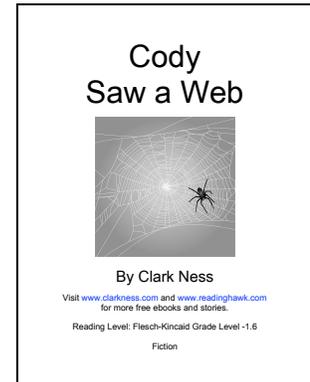
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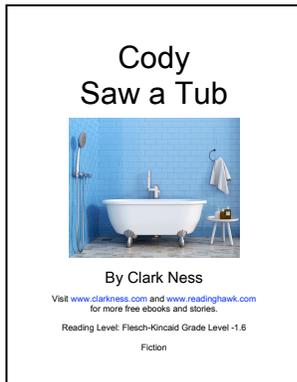
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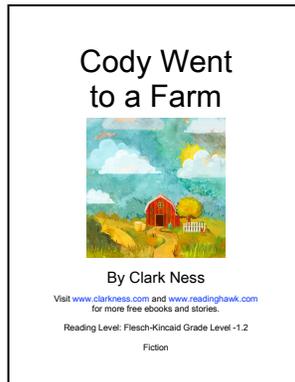
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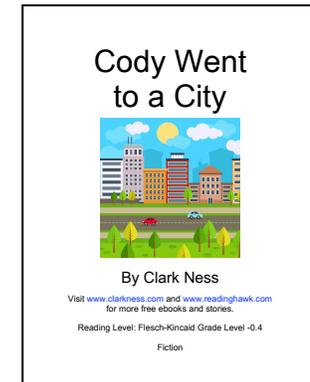
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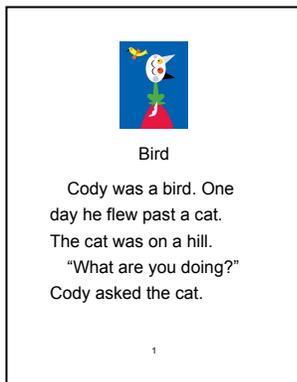


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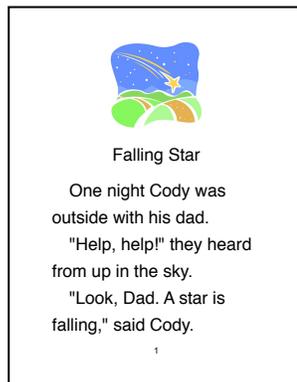


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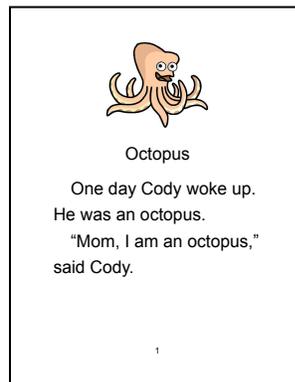
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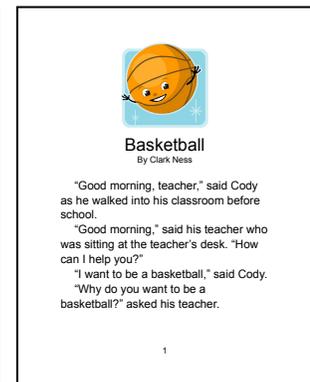
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Played

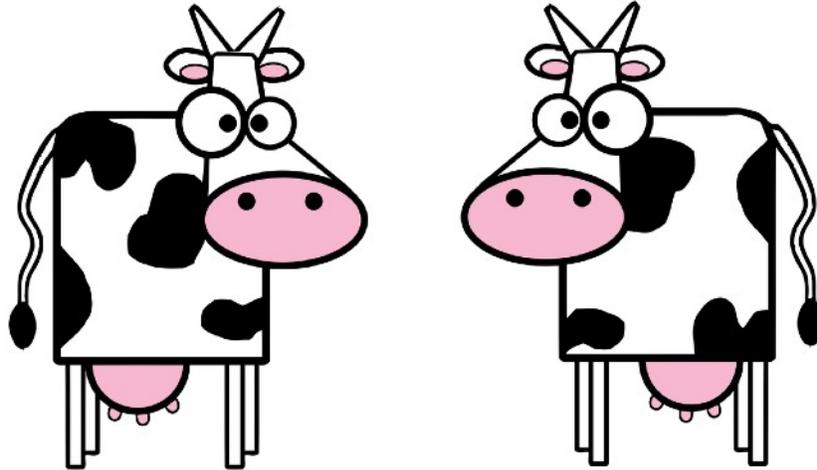
Mary and her friends played. They played with a ball. They played in the sand. They played with a dog. They went down the slide.

They had a great time.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.8

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Two Cows

“I saw two cows,” said Mary.

“The two cows saw me. I like these two cows. I hope the two cows like me.”

“Moo,” said the two COWS.

“Moo,” said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.8

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Race

Mary likes to race. One day she was in a race. She ran and ran. She ran fast. Mary won the race. She was happy.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.7

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Saw a Cat

“I saw a cat,” said Mary.

“I wish I was a cat. I could run fast. I could climb trees.”

“It would be neat to be a cat,” she said.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.5

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Out of the Water

Mary was a fish. One day she swam fast. She went so fast that she jumped out of the water.

She went up high. She could see far and wide. She had fun.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.3

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Fox

Mary went for a walk and met a fox.

“How do you do?” said Mary to the fox.

“I do very well, thank you. It is a nice day for a walk, isn’t it?” said the fox.

“Yes, it is,” said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.2

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Crocodile

One day Mary woke up.
She was a crocodile. She
went to school. She
scared her teacher.

Her friends thought she
looked cool.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.0

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Singing Flower

Mary is a flower. She loves to sing. She is a singing flower. She sings and sings.

Mary thinks that singing is fun.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.0

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Christmas Tree

Mary helped with the Christmas tree. She put candy canes on it. She put balls on it.

Her dog helped too. The tree looked great.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.9

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Read a Book

“I think I will read a book,” said Mary. Soon she was done.

“I think I will read some more,” said Mary.

Soon she was done reading seven books.

“That was fun,” said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.8

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Ice Cream Truck

“I hear the ice cream truck coming,” said Mary.

“I hope it stops by my home.”

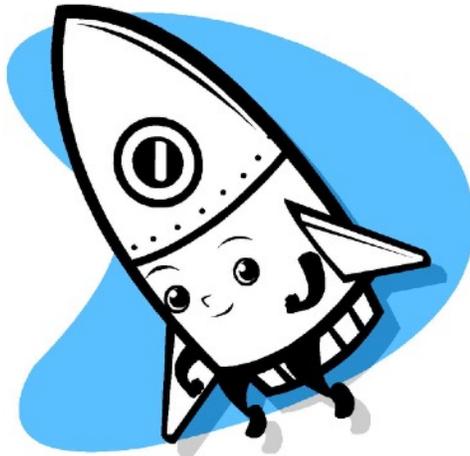
“I want to buy an ice cream treat.”

“It will taste so good.”

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.6

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Rocket

“I want to be a rocket,”
said Mary.

Poof! She was a rocket.
Whoosh! She flew up into
the sky and went to the
moon.

“Now that was fun,” said
Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.6

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Surfing Dog

Mary is a cool dog. She has a surf board. She loves to go to the beach with her surf board. She goes surfing at the beach.

Mary thinks surfing is cool.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.6

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Cat Lover

Mary is a cat lover. She loves cats. She loves big cats.

Mary loves little cats. She loves pretty cats. She loves ugly cats. Mary loves all cats.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.5

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Dog Lover

Mary is a dog lover. She loves dogs. She loves big dogs.

Mary loves little dogs. She loves pretty dogs. She loves ugly dogs. Mary loves all dogs.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.5

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Fly to School

One day Mary said, “I think I will fly to school today.”

She put on her flying suit. She flew to school.

“Wow! You flew to school,” said her teacher.

“It was easy,” said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.5

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Happy Cat

“Can you see me?” said
Mary.

“I am a cat.”

“I am a happy cat.”

“I am Mary the happy
cat,” said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.5

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Happy Dog

“Can you see me?” said
Mary.

“I am a dog.”

“I am a happy dog.”

“I am Mary the happy
dog,” said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.5

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Rhino

Mary is a rhino. She likes to play soccer. She can kick the ball. She can score a goal.

Mary likes being a rhino.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.4

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A Deer

Mary went for a walk.
She was very quiet. She
looked.

She saw a baby deer. It
had spots on its back.

Mary was glad that she
saw a baby deer.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.3

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Pet Dragon

“I want a pet dragon,”
said Mary.

“It could play with me.”

“It could read books to
me.”

“A pet dragon would be
neat,” said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.3

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Owl

Mary went for a walk and
saw an owl.

It sat up in a tree.

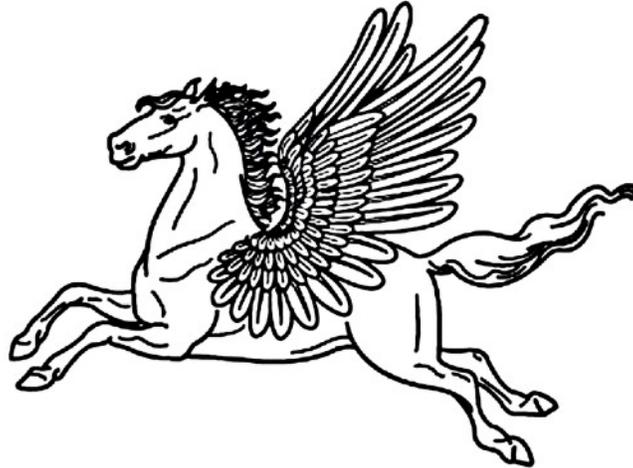
The owl said, “*Whoo,
whoo, who, who.*”

“I think that owl just said
hello to me,” said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.2

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Horse With Wings

One day Mary became a horse with wings.

She flew to her school.
Mary took each of her friends for a ride up into the sky.

They all had fun.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.1

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Astronaut

“I want to be an astronaut,” said Mary.

“I want to go out in space.”

“It would be neat to go to the Moon.”

“It would be neat to go to Mars.”

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.0

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Happy Turtle

This is Mary. She is a happy turtle. She likes to run.

“I am a happy turtle. I like to run,” said Mary.

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Giraffe

“I am a giraffe,” said Mary.

“I like to go on hikes.”

“I wear a hat. I take a pack.”

“I use a walking stick.”

“It is neat to be a giraffe,” said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.2

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Bubbles

Mary made bubbles.

Some bubbles were big.

Some bubbles were small.

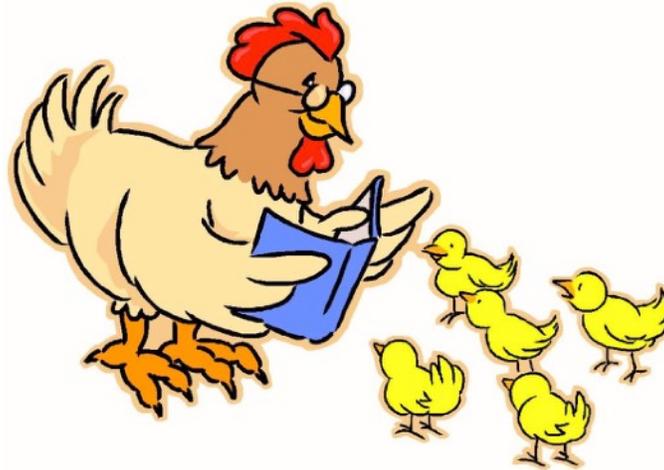
Mary made a lot of
bubbles. She had fun.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.1

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Chicken

“I saw a chicken,” said Mary.

“She wore glasses and had a book.”

“She was reading to her chicks.”

“I wonder if all chickens can read?” said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.1

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Horses

Mary saw two horses.
One horse was brown.
One horse was white. The
horses were big.

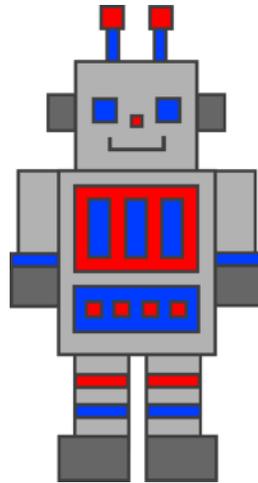
Mary liked seeing the
horses.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.1

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Robot

“Can I have a robot?”
said Mary.

“A robot could play
games with me. A robot
could read books to me.
A robot would be neat.”

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.1

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Sheep

“I saw a sheep near my home,” said Mary.

“It was knitting a sock.”

“I told the sheep that it was a nice sock.”

“The sheep smiled and kept on knitting,” said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.1

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Snow Skiing

“I want to go snow skiing,” said Mary.

“It would be so much fun.”

“I would be out in the nice cold snow.”

“I could go fast.”

“Snow skiing would be a blast,” she said.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.1

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Rabbit

“I want to be a rabbit,”
said Mary.

“I would have two long
ears.”

“I could hop and hop.”

“I would even like to eat
carrots,” said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.2

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Cowgirl

“I am going to be a cowgirl,” said Mary.

“I will have a rope.”

“I will ride a horse.”

“I will herd my cattle.”

“It will be neat to be a cowgirl,” said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.3

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Bear

Mary went for a walk and met a happy bear.

The bear wore boots, mittens, and a stocking hat.

“It must be a cold day,” said Mary.

“Yes, it is,” said the bear.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.5

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Soccer Ball

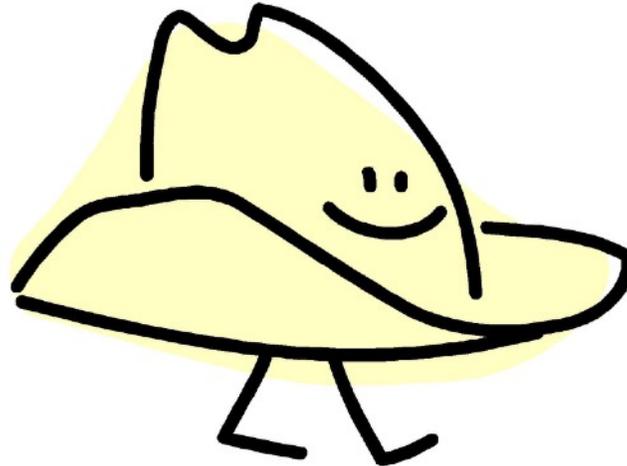
Mary has a soccer ball.
She plays soccer with it
every day.

“I love playing soccer. It
is a great sport. Soccer is
fun,” said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.5

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Hat

Mary saw a hat walk by.
“Where are you going?”
asked Mary.

“I am going to a cattle
ranch,” said the hat.

“I want a cowboy to find
me so that I can become a
real cowboy hat.”

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.7

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Rat

One day Mary saw a rat.

“That rat is on a skateboard,” said Mary.

“I love to go on my skateboard,” said the rat.

“Hope you have fun,” said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.7

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Safari

“I went to Africa,” said
Mary.

“I went on a safari.”

“We drove out in a jeep
and saw a rhino.”

“It was so neat.”

“I took a lot of pictures.”

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.7

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I Have a Pencil

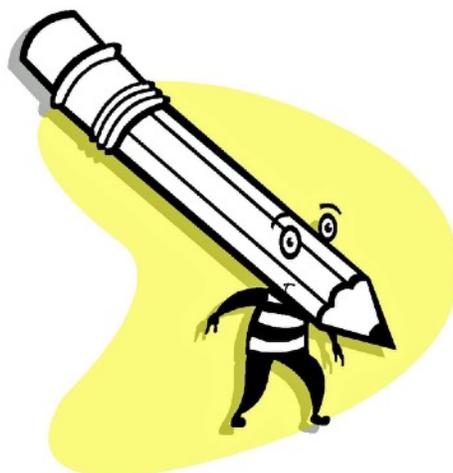
“I have a pencil,” said Mary. “I use it every day. I write stories with it. I answer questions. I solve math problems.”

“My pencil is a great tool to have.”

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.9

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Pencil

One day Mary woke up.
She was a pencil.

“I think I will write a
story,” said Mary. She
wrote a story. It was about
being a pencil.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.9

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Pink Elephant

“I saw a pink elephant,”
said Mary. “It had a green
balloon and wore a yellow
hat.”

“There was a bird sitting
on its back. I wonder
where it was going?” said
Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.9

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Saw a Cat Look

“I saw a cat look at a bird. I saw the bird look at the cat,” said Mary.

“I don’t know what they could have been thinking. Cats and birds are usually not friends.”

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.9

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Snake

“I think I would like to be a snake,” said Mary.

“It would be fun to slither along the ground.”

“I would hunt for food and have a good life.”

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.9

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Elephant

“I went to a pet shop,”
said Mary.

“I got a nice elephant. I
took my elephant home.”

“Mom said it was too big
for me to keep.”

“So I took the elephant
back,” said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 1.0

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Monsters

“I saw three monsters today,” said Mary.

“They were happy monsters going for a walk.”

“I wonder where they were going?” said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 1.0

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Pet Shop

“I am going to go to a pet shop,” said Mary.

“I will see all kinds of animals there.”

“I will see fish, cats, dogs, mice, and birds.”

“It will be fun to go to a pet shop,” said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 1.0

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Singing Apples

“I went to the store. I saw some apples. Three of the apples jumped up and sang a song to me,” said Mary.

“I had never seen singing apples before.”

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 1.1

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Happy Snowman

“I am a happy snowman,” said Mary.

“I wear a hat and a scarf, and I hold a broom.”

“My nose is a carrot.”

“I am happy to be a snowman,” said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 1.2

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Snail

“Last night I had a dream. I dreamed that I was a snail,” said Mary.

“I was a happy snail, but it took a long time to get anywhere.”

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 1.2

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Singing Fish

“I want to be a fish that can sing,” said Mary.

“I would sing songs about the sea.”

“I would sing songs to sailors and to people who go fishing.”

“It would be fun to be a singing fish,” said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 1.6

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Airplane

“When I get older, I want to learn how to fly an airplane,” said Mary.

“I will fly it up into the sky and look down on the world. It will be so fun.”

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 1.7

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Kangaroo

Mary is a kangaroo. She likes to play basketball. She can jump. She can shoot.

Mary likes being a kangaroo.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 1.9

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Lemonade

Mary made some lemonade. She set up a lemonade stand. She sold lemonade to her friends and family.

Mary made \$5.00 in one day.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 1.9

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If I Were a Dog

“If I were a dog, I would want to be able to drive a car,” said Mary.

“I would put on my yellow hat and get in my red car. People would smile when I went by.”

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 2.0

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Submarine

“I went on a submarine,”
said Mary.

“We went down
underwater.”

“I saw all kinds of fish.”

“It was fun to go on a
submarine.”

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 2.0

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Treehouse

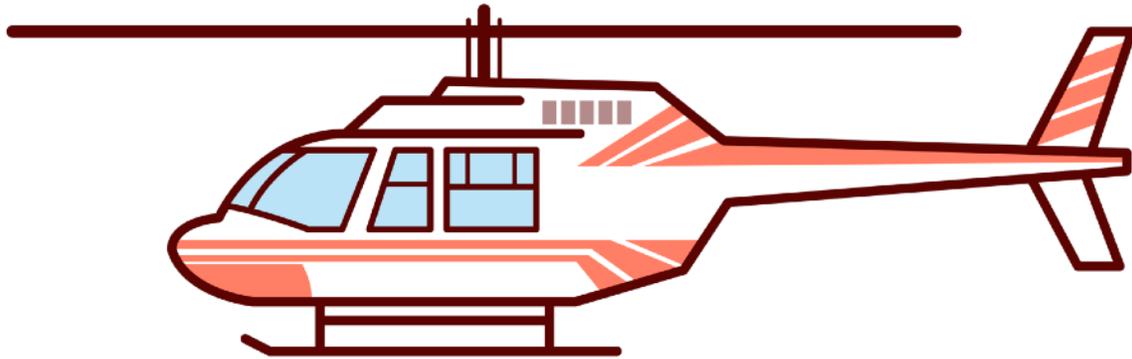
“I am going to build a treehouse,” said Mary. “It will be so much fun.”

“I will have a good view and get to see birds and little animals every day.”

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 2.5

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Helicopter

“I want to fly a helicopter,” said Mary.

“It would be neat to fly it up in the sky.”

“I could help save people by flying a helicopter.”

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 2.8

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Opened a Book

“I opened a book last week and a pirate story came out,” said Mary.

“It was a very good story about pirates and pirate ships. I liked the part about buried treasure.”

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 4.4

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Hippo

Mary saw a hippo. It was on a unicycle. It was playing a violin.

“Be careful when you play your violin on a unicycle,” said Mary to the hippo.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 4.7

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Mary Saw



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Reading Level: Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.6

Fiction

Cat



Mary saw a cat.

It was a big cat.

“I saw a cat,” said Mary.

“It was a big cat,” she
said.

Bat



Mary saw a bat.

It was a big bat.

“I saw a bat,” said Mary.

“It was a big bat,” she
said.

Rat



Mary saw a rat.

It was a big rat.

“I saw a rat,” said Mary.

“It was a big rat,” she
said.

Ant



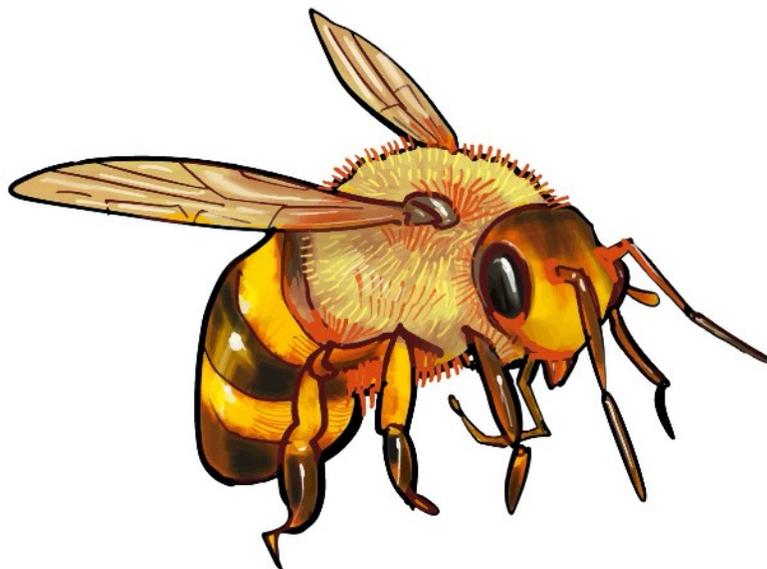
Mary saw an ant.

It was a big ant.

“I saw an ant,” said
Mary.

“It was a big ant,” she
said.

Bee



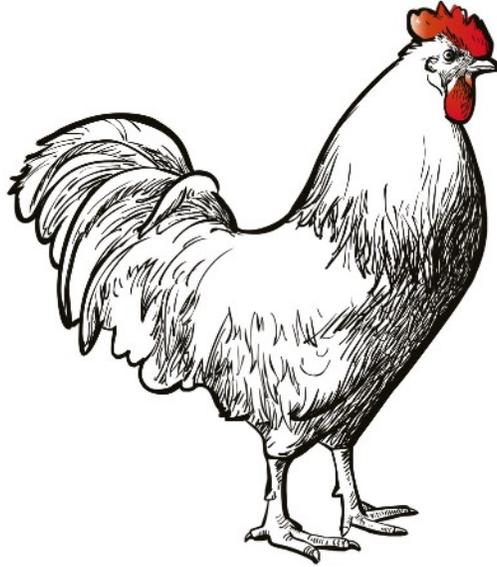
Mary saw a bee.

It was a big bee.

“I saw a bee,” said Mary.

“It was a big bee,” she
said.

Hen



Mary saw a hen.

It was a big hen.

“I saw a hen,” said Mary.

“It was a big hen,” she
said.

Elk



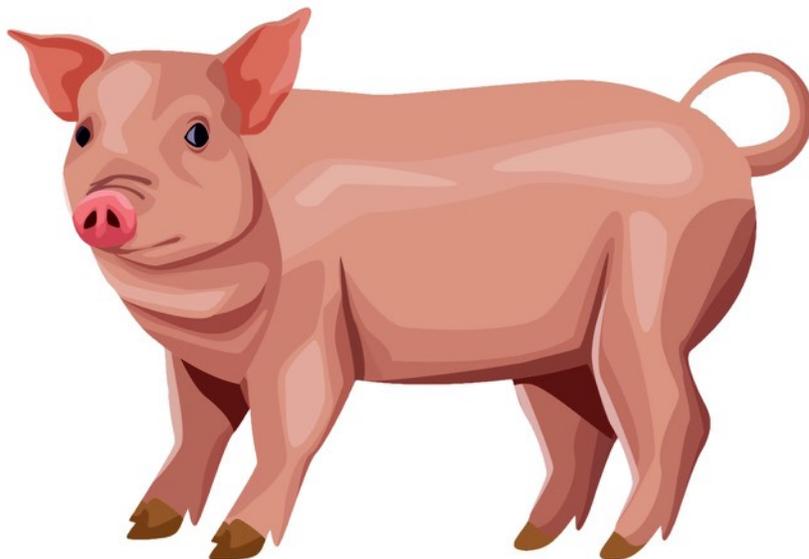
Mary saw an elk.

It was a big elk.

“I saw an elk,” said Mary.

“It was a big elk,” she
said.

Pig



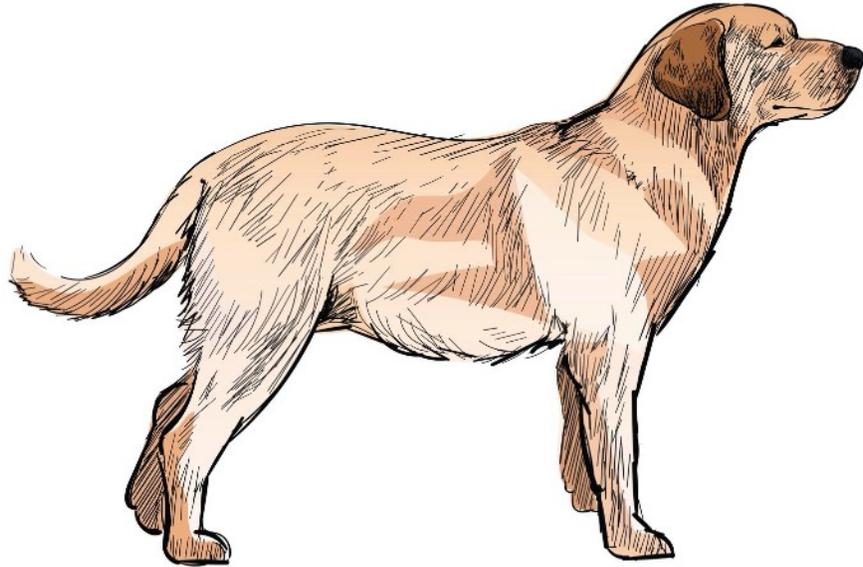
Mary saw a pig.

It was a big pig.

“I saw a pig,” said Mary.

“It was a big pig,” she
said.

Dog



Mary saw a dog.

It was a big dog.

“I saw a dog,” said Mary.

“It was a big dog,” she
said.

Cod



Mary saw a cod.

It was a big cod.

“I saw a cod,” said Mary.

“It was a big cod,” she
said.

Fox



Mary saw a fox.

It was a big fox.

“I saw a fox,” said Mary.

“It was a big fox,” she
said.

Cow



Mary saw a cow.

It was a big cow.

“I saw a cow,” said Mary.

“It was a big cow,” she
said.

Owl



Mary saw an owl.

It was a big owl.

“I saw an owl,” said
Mary.

“It was a big owl,” she
said.

Bug



Mary saw a bug.

It was a big bug.

“I saw a bug,” said Mary.

“It was a big bug,” she
said.

Pup



Mary saw a pup.

It was a big pup.

“I saw a pup,” said Mary.

“It was a big pup,” she
said.

Fly



Mary saw a fly.

It was a big fly.

“I saw a fly,” said Mary.

“It was a big fly,” she
said.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.6

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Mary Saw a Cab



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Reading Level: Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.6

Fiction

Cab



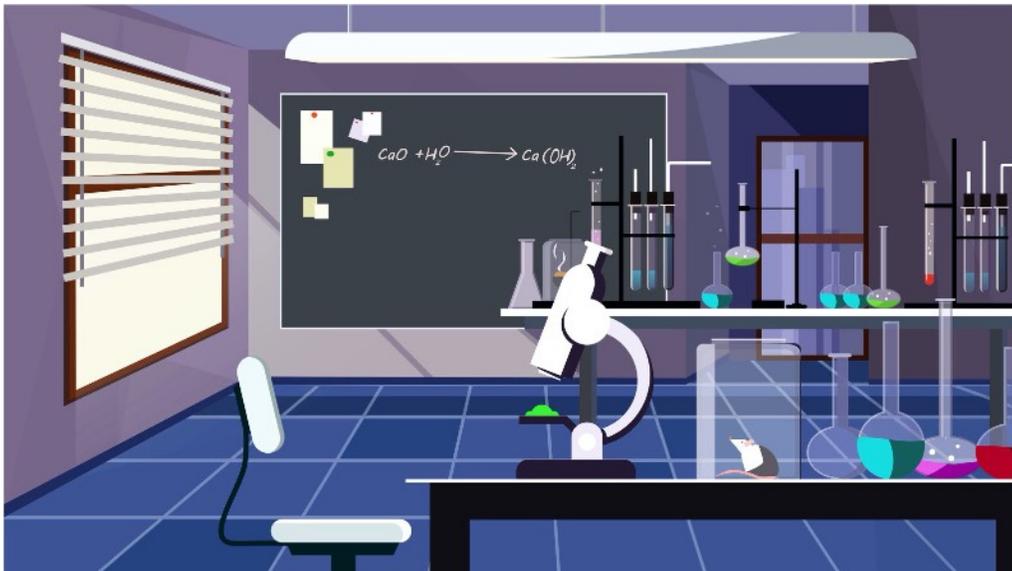
Mary saw a cab.

It was a nice cab.

“I saw a cab,” said Mary.

“It was a nice cab,” she
said.

Lab



Mary saw a lab.

It was a nice lab.

“I saw a lab,” said Mary.

“It was a nice lab,” she
said.

Bag



Mary saw a bag.

It was a nice bag.

“I saw a bag,” said Mary.

“It was a nice bag,” she
said.

Rag



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Mary saw a rag.
It was a nice rag.
“I saw a rag,” said Mary.
“It was a nice rag,” she
said.

Yam



Mary saw a yam.

It was a nice yam.

“I saw a yam,” said
Mary.

“It was a nice yam,” she
said.

Can



Mary saw a can.

It was a nice can.

“I saw a can,” said Mary.

“It was a nice can,” she
said.

Fan



Mary saw a fan.

It was a nice fan.

“I saw a fan,” said Mary.

“It was a nice fan,” she
said.

Pan



Mary saw a pan.

It was a nice pan.

“I saw a pan,” said Mary.

“It was a nice pan,” she
said.

Van



Mary saw a van.

It was a nice van.

“I saw a van,” said Mary.

“It was a nice van,” she
said.

Cap



Mary saw a cap.
It was a nice cap.
“I saw a cap,” said Mary.
“It was a nice cap,” she
said.

Map



Mary saw a map.

It was a nice map.

“I saw a map,” said
Mary.

“It was a nice map,” she
said.

Bat



Mary saw a bat.

It was a nice bat.

“I saw a bat,” said Mary.

“It was a nice bat,” she
said.

Hat



Mary saw a hat.

It was a nice hat.

“I saw a hat,” said Mary.

“It was a nice hat,” she
said.

Mat



Mary saw a mat.

It was a nice mat.

“I saw a mat,” said Mary.

“It was a nice mat,” she
said.

Vat



Mary saw a vat.

It was a nice vat.

“I saw a vat,” said Mary.

“It was a nice vat,” she
said.

Sax



Mary saw a sax.

It was a nice sax.

“I saw a sax,” said Mary.

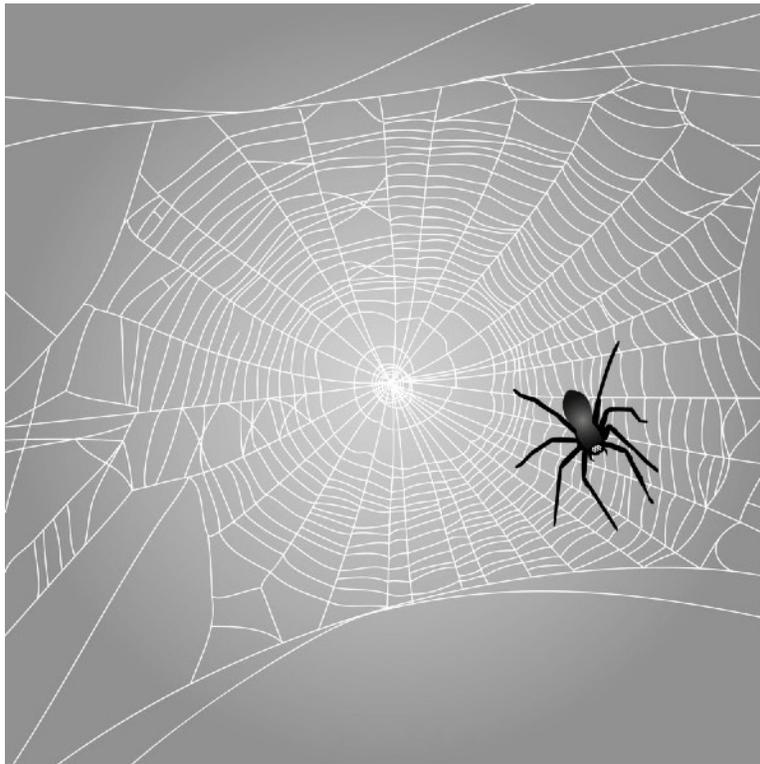
“It was a nice sax,” she
said.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.6

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Mary Saw a Web



By Clark Ness

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Reading Level: Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.6

Fiction

Web



Mary saw a web.

It was a cool web.

“I saw a web,” said Mary.

“It was a cool web,” she
said.

Gem



Mary saw a gem.

It was a cool gem.

“I saw a gem,” said
Mary.

“It was a cool gem,” she
said.

Pen



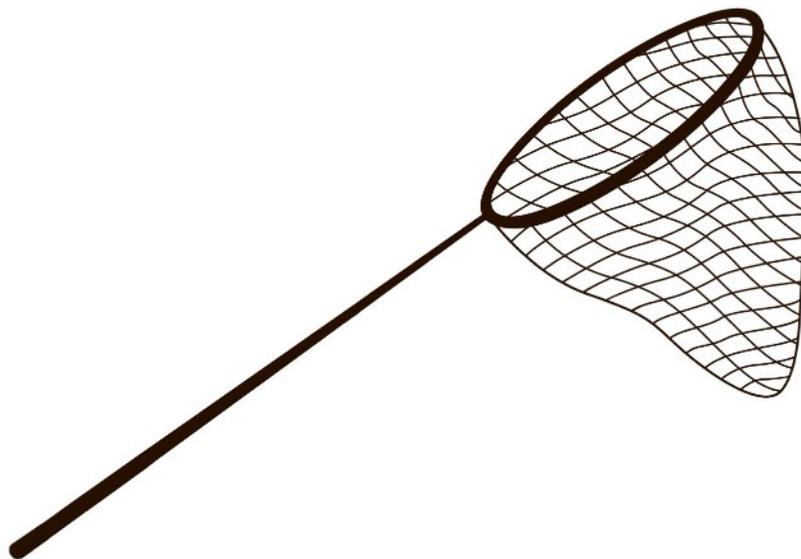
Mary saw a pen.

It was a cool pen.

“I saw a pen,” said Mary.

“It was a cool pen,” she
said.

Net



Mary saw a net.

It was a cool net.

“I saw a net,” said Mary.

“It was a cool net,” she
said.

Jet



Mary saw a jet.

It was a cool jet.

“I saw a jet,” said Mary.

“It was a cool jet,” she
said.

Wig



Mary saw a wig.

It was a cool wig.

“I saw a wig,” said Mary.

“It was a cool wig,” she
said.

Bin



Mary saw a bin.

It was a cool bin.

“I saw a bin,” said Mary.

“It was a cool bin,” she
said.

Fin



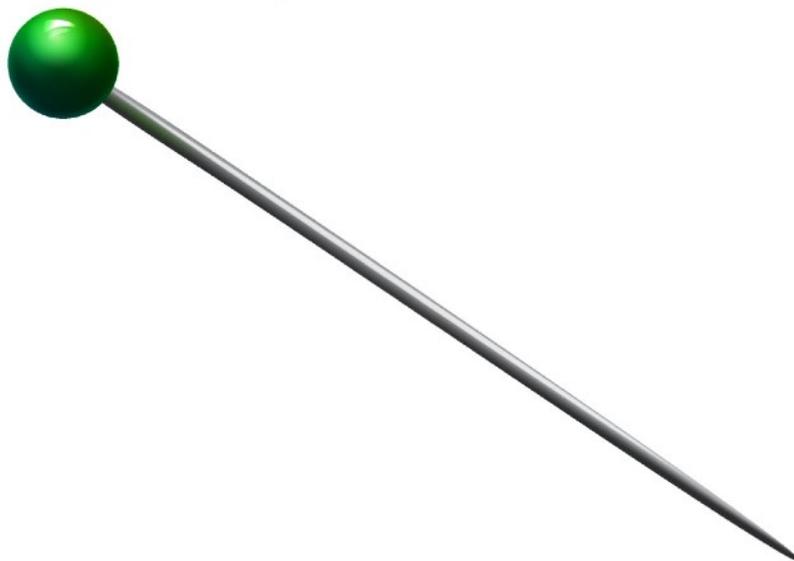
Mary saw a fin.

It was a cool fin.

“I saw a fin,” said Mary.

“It was a cool fin,” she
said.

Pin



Mary saw a pin.

It was a cool pin.

“I saw a pin,” said Mary.

“It was a cool pin,” she
said.

Rod



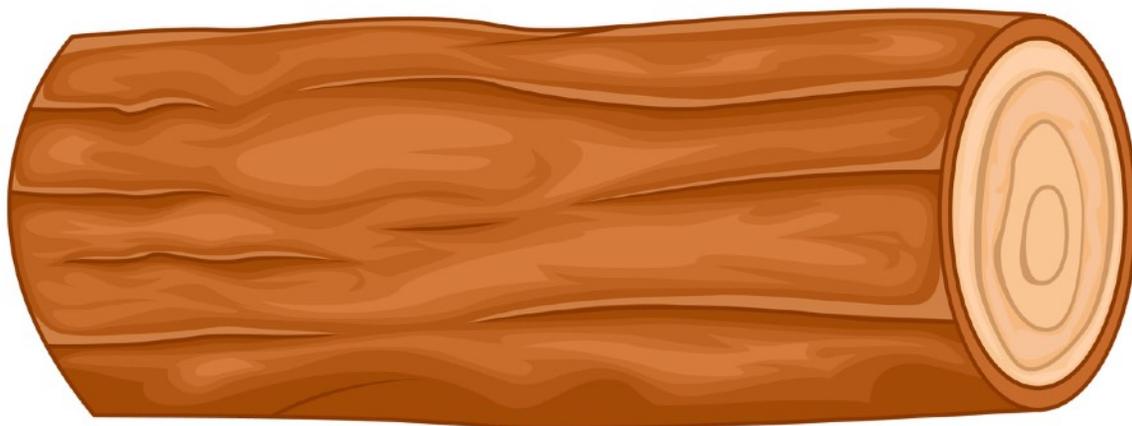
Mary saw a rod.

It was a cool rod.

“I saw a rod,” said Mary.

“It was a cool rod,” she
said.

Log



Mary saw a log.

It was a cool log.

“I saw a log,” said Mary.

“It was a cool log,” she
said.

Mop



Mary saw a mop.

It was a cool mop.

“I saw a mop,” said
Mary.

“It was a cool mop,” she
said.

Top



Mary saw a top.

It was a cool top.

“I saw a top,” said Mary.

“It was a cool top,” she
said.

Cot



Photograph © Rosenman - en.wikipedia.org

Mary saw a cot.
It was a cool cot.
“I saw a cot,” said Mary.
“It was a cool cot,” she
said.

Pot



Mary saw a pot.

It was a cool pot.

“I saw a pot,” said Mary.

“It was a cool pot,” she
said.

Box



Mary saw a box.
It was a cool box.
“I saw a box,” said Mary.
“It was a cool box,” she
said.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.6

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Mary Saw a Tub



By Clark Ness

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Reading Level: Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.6

Fiction

Tub



Mary saw a tub.

It was a neat tub.

“I saw a tub,” said Mary.

“It was a neat tub,” she
said.

Jug



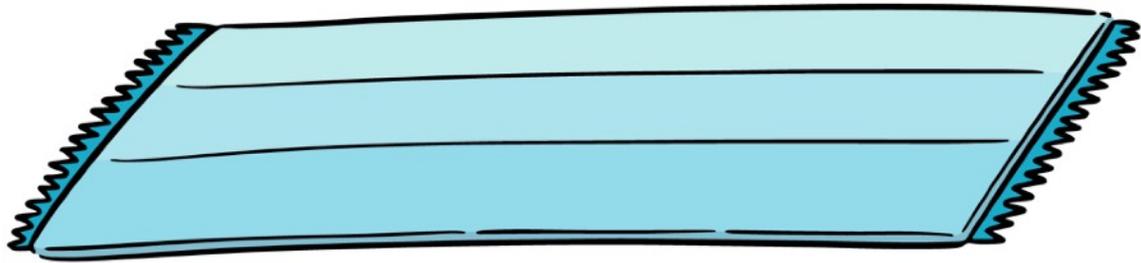
Mary saw a jug.

It was a neat jug.

“I saw a jug,” said Mary.

“It was a neat jug,” she
said.

Rug



Mary saw a rug.

It was a neat rug.

“I saw a rug,” said Mary.

“It was a neat rug,” she
said.

Bun



Mary saw a bun.

It was a neat bun.

“I saw a bun,” said Mary.

“It was a neat bun,” she
said.

Cup



Mary saw a cup.
It was a neat cup.
“I saw a cup,” said Mary.
“It was a neat cup,” she
said.

Bus



Mary saw a bus.

It was a neat bus.

“I saw a bus,” said Mary.

“It was a neat bus,” she
said.

Hut



Mary saw a hut.

It was a neat hut.

“I saw a hut,” said Mary.

“It was a neat hut,” she
said.

Nut



Mary saw a nut.

It was a neat nut.

“I saw a nut,” said Mary.

“It was a neat nut,” she
said.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.6

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Mary Went to a Farm



By Clark Ness

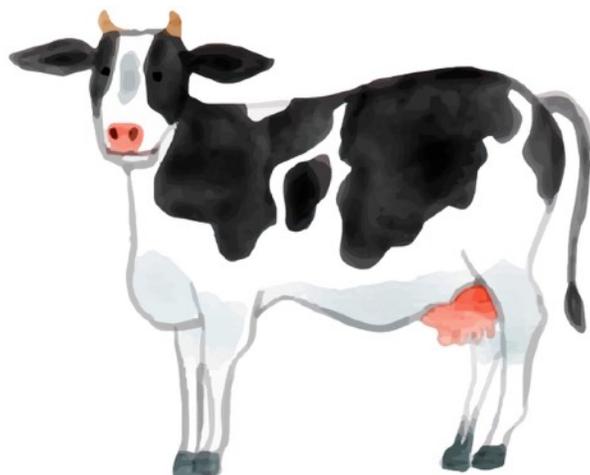
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Reading Level: Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.2

Fiction



Mary went to a
farm. She saw a
horse. It was a nice
horse.



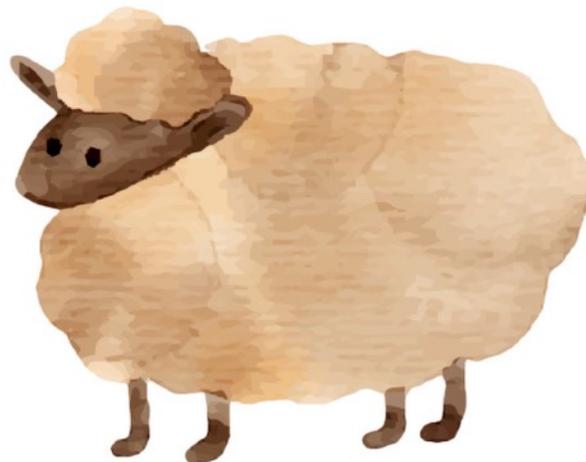
Mary went to a
farm. She saw a
cow. It was a nice
COW.



Mary went to a
farm. A donkey was
there. It was a nice
donkey.



Mary went to a
farm. A pig was
there. It was a nice
pig.



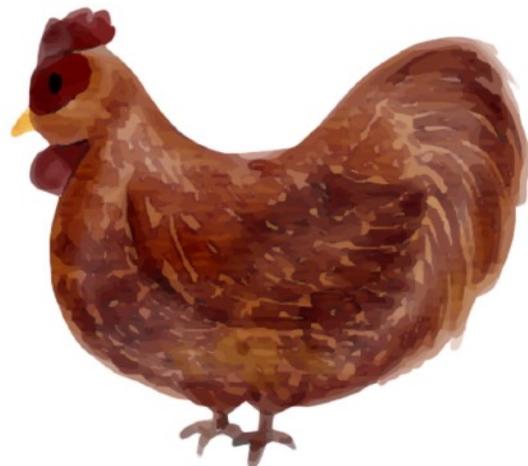
Mary went to a
farm. There was a
sheep. It was a nice
sheep.



Mary went to a
farm. There was a
turkey. It was a nice
turkey.



Mary went to a
farm. It had a duck.
It was a nice duck.



Mary went to a
farm. It had a
chicken. It was a
nice chicken.



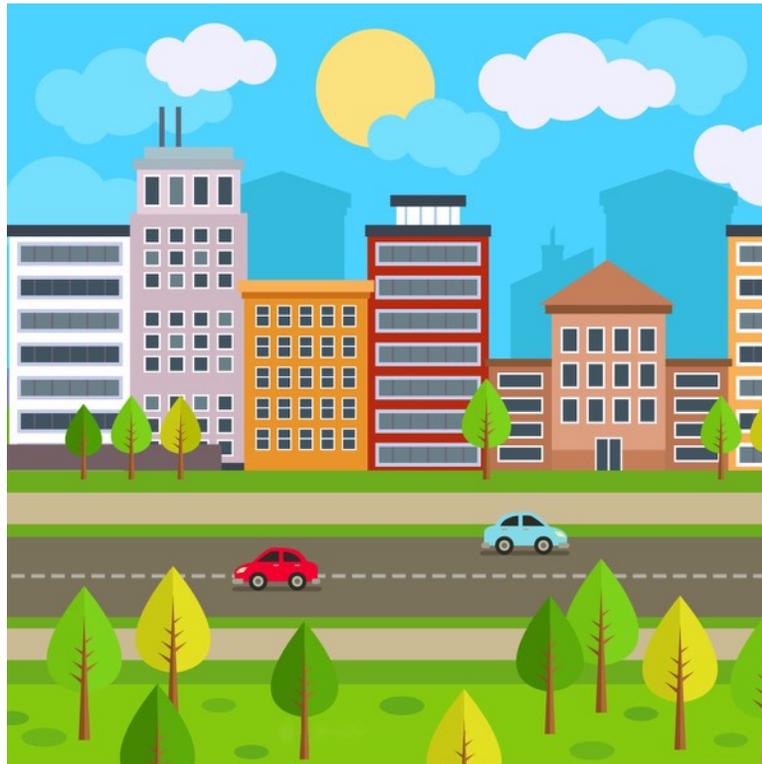
Mary was happy
that she went to a
nice farm.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.2

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Mary Went to a City



By Clark Ness

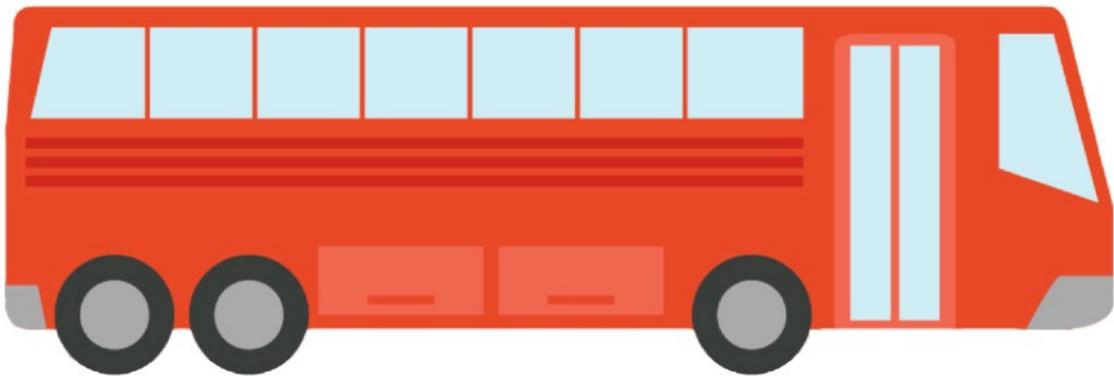
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Reading Level: Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.4

Fiction



Mary went to a
city. She saw a
train. It was a nice
train.



Mary went to a
city. She saw a bus.
It was a nice bus.



Mary went to a
city. A truck was
there. It was a nice
truck.



Mary went to a
city. A fire truck was
there. It was a nice
fire truck.



Mary went to a
city. An ambulance
was there. It was a
nice ambulance.



Mary went to a
city. There was a
police car. It was a
nice police car.



Mary went to a
city. There was a
taxi. It was a nice
taxi.



Mary went to a
city. There was a
motorcycle. It was a
nice motorcycle.



Mary was happy
that she went to a
nice city.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.4

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Mary Is In This Story



Bird

Cody was a bird. One day he flew past a cat. The cat was on a hill. "What are you doing?" Cody asked the cat.

1



Falling Star

One night Cody was outside with his dad. "Help, help!" they heard from up in the sky. "Look, Dad. A star is falling," said Cody.

1



Octopus

One day Cody woke up. He was an octopus. "Mom, I am an octopus," said Cody.

1



Basketball

By Clark Ness

"Good morning, teacher," said Cody as he walked into his classroom before school. "Good morning," said his teacher who was sitting at the teacher's desk. "How can I help you?" "I want to be a basketball," said Cody. "Why do you want to be a basketball?" asked his teacher.

1

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Bird

Mary was a bird. One day she flew past a cat. The cat was on a hill.

“What are you doing?”
Mary asked the cat.



“I am sitting on a hill,”
said the cat.

“Come and fly with me,”
said Mary.

“I cannot fly,” said the
cat.

“That is too bad,” said
Mary.



“I will go and fly all around,” said Mary.

“I will then come back and tell you all about it,” she said.

“That would be nice,” said the cat.



So Mary went and flew
all around.

She then came back to
the cat.

Mary told the cat what
she had seen.

The cat was happy.



“Thank you,” said the
cat.

“You are welcome,”
said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.5

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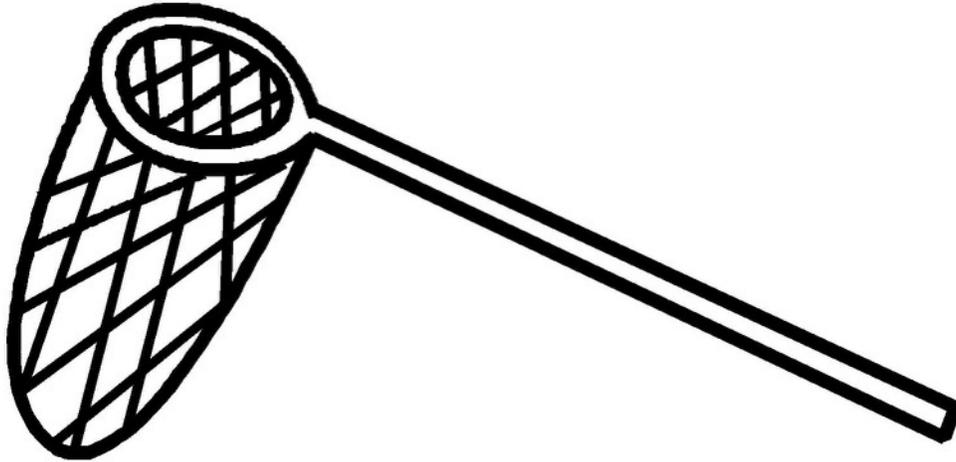


Falling Star

One night Mary was
outside with her dad.

"Help, help!" they heard
from up in the sky.

"Look, Dad. A star is
falling," said Mary.



"What should we do?"
said her dad.

"I know what to do,"
said Mary.

She ran and got a big
net.



Mary took the net and quickly caught the star just before it hit the ground.

"Thanks for saving me," said the star.

"What should we do with this star now?" asked Mary's dad.



"We need to throw it back up into the sky," said Mary.

Mary grabbed the star out of the net and threw it back up into the sky.



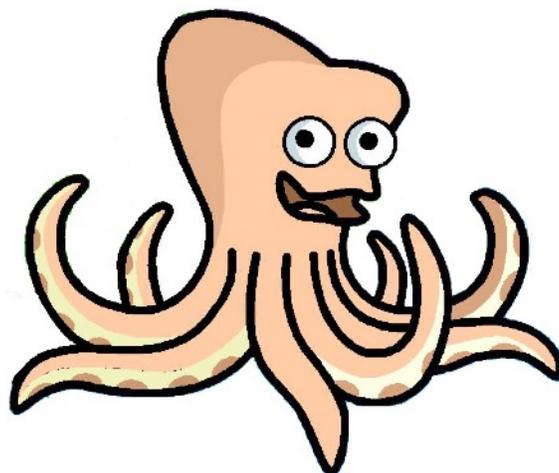
"Thanks so much," said the star from high up in the sky.

Mary was proud that she had saved a falling star.

Flesch Kincaid Grade Level -0.1

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Octopus

One day Mary woke up.
She was an octopus.

“Mom, I am an
octopus,” said Mary.



“That is nice. Now figure out what to do with your eight arms,” said her mom.

Mary thought and thought.

“I think I will play some music,” she said.



She got out a guitar and played it.

She got out a trumpet and played it.

She got out a drum and played it.

She then got out a maraca and played it.



“I bet I can play all of these at once with my eight arms,” said Mary.

She picked up the maraca. She put the drum next to her. She picked up the trumpet. She then picked up the guitar.



She began to play music with the guitar, the trumpet, the drum, and the maraca.

“Your band sounds great,” said her mother.

“Thanks, Mom. It is fun to be a one octopus band,” said Mary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 1.0

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Basketball

By Clark Ness

“Good morning, Teacher,” said Mary as she walked into her classroom before school.

“Good morning,” said her teacher who was sitting at the teacher’s desk. “How can I help you?”

“I want to be a basketball,” said Mary.

“Why do you want to be a basketball?” asked her teacher.



“I think it would be fun to fly in the air and then go *swish* through the basketball net,” replied Mary.

“Okay you can become a basketball. Please come over here,” said the teacher. Mary’s teacher reached inside the teacher’s desk and pulled out the lucky buffalo coin. Mary walked over to the teacher’s desk. Her teacher held the coin above Mary’s head.

“Basketball, basketball, basketball,” said the teacher.



There was a loud *poof*, followed by some white smoke, and Mary was a basketball.

One of Mary's friends walked into the classroom just at that time.

"Do you want to go out and play basketball?" asked Mary the basketball. Her friend stopped right in her tracks and looked at the talking basketball.

"How can a basketball talk?" she asked.



“It’s me, Mary,” said Mary. “Our teacher used the lucky buffalo coin and turned me into a basketball.”

“Boy, you must have done something really bad for our teacher to turn you into a basketball,” said the friend.

“No, I didn’t. I asked our teacher to turn me into a basketball because I wanted to be a basketball,” said Mary with a big smile.



“You kids can go outside and play,” said the teacher. “You have about five minutes before school will start. Just remember to bring Mary back inside.”

Mary’s friend grabbed Mary the basketball and ran outside with her.

“Cool basketball,” said the other kids on the playground.

“It is just me, your friend, Mary,” said the basketball.

“Neat,” said the kids.



The kids all played basketball with Mary the basketball.

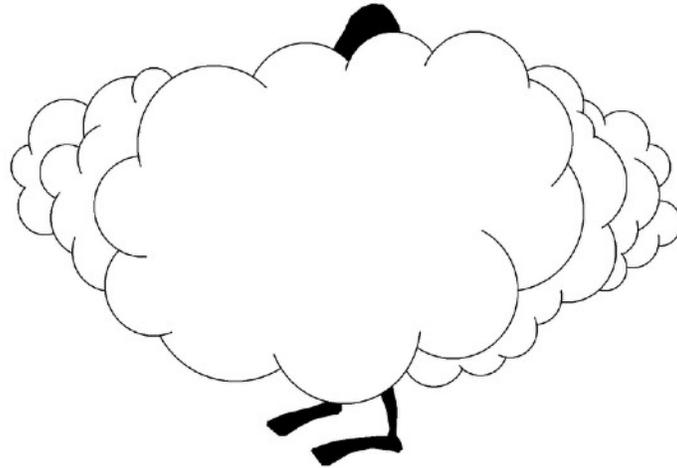
“Does it hurt being a basketball?” asked one of the friends.

“Not a bit,” said Mary. “Shoot me through the hoop again.”

One of the kids picked up Mary and took a shot. *Swish* went Mary.

“That sure is fun,” said Mary.
“Thanks.”

The school bell then rang. Mary’s friend went back into the classroom with Mary and walked over to their teacher.



The teacher held up the lucky buffalo coin and said, “Mary, Mary, Mary.” There was a *poof*, then some white smoke, and Mary was Mary the girl again.

“Thank you. It was a lot of fun being a basketball. Maybe tomorrow I can be a baseball,” said Mary.

“I am glad you had fun. We can see about you being a baseball tomorrow. Now, time for school,” said the teacher.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 2.6

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