

Follow That Smell!



Something stinky hides in the park. The sun is **high** and **bright**. The Girl sniffs the wind. She sniffs again, and again. She tracks the smell up the sunny path. In a green shrub, two small eyes peek at her. 'I see you in there,' she says. 'And I can smell you.'





From the shrub steps the most stinky beast The Girl has ever seen. It is Pig! Pig is caked in thick mud from nose to tail. Green stink lines swirl up from Pig. 'A pig!' The Girl yells. 'A pig at the park! What a sight!' Pig does not look glad. But The Girl is glad for both of them.

The Girl runs on the hill
with her arms wide. 'Run
with me, Pig!' Pig gallops
after her with a big, silly
grin. Flies buzz high
over them both. 'You
are the best thing I
ever met!' The Girl yells.
'Better than a fresh **pie**!
Better than a snow day!'





The Girl runs to a big puddle. 'Pigs like mud. Jump in, Pig!' Pig jumps in with all four feet. Muddy water blasts up high. It soaks The Girl's dress. It soaks her boots. It soaks a butterfly. 'Pig,' she says, 'you are the best at being a pig.'

The Girl goes up a big tree
and sits on a **high** branch.

'Come up, Pig! You can see
every hill from up **high**!' Pig sits
at the bottom of the tree. Pig
does not go up. Pig does not
even try. Pig just gazes up with
the most grumpy face The Girl
has ever seen. 'Pigs do not like
trees,' she says with a **sigh**.





The Girl slips off her boots and sticks them on Pig's feet. All four of them. Pig lifts its chin and lets out a big note. Not a grunt. A **mighty** blast of a note. The Girl closes her eyes, holds one hand up **high**, and sings along at the top of her lungs. It **might** be the oddest duet ever, and she likes every last bit of it.

The **sunlight** sinks low. It is almost **nightfall**. The Girl looks at Pig. Pig looks at The Girl. Flies buzz by Pig in rings. 'You must come home with me, Pig,' she says. 'But we have to be sneaky. Mum will not like the smell.' The Girl creeps up the driveway and peeks in the door. All still.





They creep up the hallway, step by step. Muddy tracks and prints trail after them like a map to a mess. 'Hush, Pig,' The Girl says. 'Not a squeak.' Pig lets out a slight squeak. The Girl keeps right on creeping.

The Girl leads Pig to Mum's dressing table. If Pig is going to live with her, Pig must look the part. The Girl slips on Mum's robe and a chain of beads. Then she holds up the bright red lipstick. 'Hold still, Pig.' Pig does not hold still. But The Girl gets lipstick on Pig. Mostly on its lips. Partly on the tile. Pig grins at itself in the glass like the star of the show.





'What,' says Mum at the door, 'is that?' Mum fixes her gaze **right** on Pig. Pig drips mud on the rug. A fly lands on the lipstick. The Girl peeks in from the side, eyes wide with **fright**. 'It is my pig,' she says. 'I met it at the park. Can I keep it? Please? I will look after it forever and ever and. ' 'March that beast to the bathtub,' says Mum. '**Right** this instant.'



'You can keep it clean,' says Mum, hands on her hips. 'No more muck in my home.'

They fill the bathtub with hot, soapy water. Pig gets in. The Girl gets in after it. Bubbles float up high as they scrub and splash. Layer by layer, the mud comes off. And The Girl spots something strange.





Under all that mud is not a pig. It is a pug, with **bright** eyes and a **tight**, curly tail. The Girl blinks. The pug blinks back, and its tail wags in the suds. 'You are still the most stinky thing I ever met at the park,' The Girl says, and brushes its fur. The pug licks her nose. She is keeping it forever.



Follow That Smell!

Something stinky is hiding in the park, and a girl is determined to sniff it out. What she finds is covered head to toe in mud, and by the time she's done, it's wearing her boots, wearing her mum's lipstick, and hiding right under her own roof! Can she keep her stinky new friend a secret? Created to align with the UFLI Foundations scope and sequence (Lesson 87: ie, igh /ī/), this book practises words like 'bright', 'sigh', 'tight', 'nightfall', 'mighty'.

Phonics Focus: ie, igh /ī/

bright, fright, high, might, mighty, nightfall, pie, right, sigh, sight, slight, sunlight, tight

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