

Fig Pig and the Strange Enderman



Fig Pig stops so fast his glasses slip down his snout. 'An enderman!' he yells. He **aims** his snout at the dark **cave** mouth. 'There! See it? The tall creepy one with the lit up eyes!' Player **takes** one step back. Fig Pig **takes** one step in.





At night, Fig Pig wakes up. A sound! He creeps out, and there it is. An enderman stands by the house, like a shadow with no **home**. A **strange** blue beam zooms up to the sky. The enderman's eyes burn in the dark. 'Why is it so mad?' Fig Pig says softly. He wants to run back in. He really does. But Fig Pig **stays** and **gazes**.

'I do not get it,' says Fig Pig the next **day**. 'Why do they **take** blocks? Where do they go with them? What is the **aim?**' Player has no clue.

'So,' says Fig Pig, and he marches to the **cave**. 'We go in.'

'We?' says Player. 'We,' says Fig Pig.





Up close, the enderman is tall.
So, so tall. Fig Pig's legs
shake, but it is just the chill.
Yep. Just the chill.

'Do not **gaze** at its eyes,'
says Player, and he hides by
a rock.

Fig Pig turns to the **side**,
looks hard at the ground, and
says, 'So. Why so mad, big
pal?' No sound. No sound at
all.

The Enderman does not **say** a thing. It does not even blink.

It just reaches down, **takes** a block like it has no heft, tucks it under one long arm, and whoosh! Gone. It vanishes into the dark like a **flame** in the wind.

'**Wait!**' yells Fig Pig. 'I was speaking to it!'





But then Fig Pig gets really quiet. He **gazes** at the spot where the enderman was. The block was so **safe** in its long arms. Like a kid with a toy.

'I see,' Fig Pig says softly. 'I see, I see, I see.'

He looks at Player. 'They do not steal. They want to **make** homes with blocks, just like us. But no one lets them join in.'

And then Fig Pig gets the rest of it. He can see it all. A vast beast with wings comes to their land. It darkens the sky. It comes in a **rage** and smashes all they have. All the blocks. All the walls. All the homes. They scream and scream. That fright never ends.





Fig Pig presses his snout on the fence. The Enderman stands alone on the path. Sparks flicker by it like little lost stars.

Fig Pig gives a sad little oink. 'He **shakes** with fright,' he says softly. 'Just like me, when he **came** by my window at night. He does not scream because he is mad. He screams because he wants a pal to let him in.'



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Fig Pig spots something strange near the dark cave, tall and glowing-eyed, and it won't stop staring back. That night it shows up right outside his house, and its purple eyes burn like it's furious about something. Fig Pig wants to hide, but he can't look away. Why is it so mad? Written for Jolly Phonics classrooms (Step 3, Unit 4: /ai/ mixed), this book practices words like 'gaze', 'strange', 'stay', 'wait', 'shake'.

Phonics Focus: <mixed>

aim, aims, came, cave, day, flame, gaze, gazes, hide, home, make, play, rage, safe, say, shake, shakes, side, stay, stays, strange, take, takes, wait, wake

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