

The Dark Sneaks In



It is a big feast at dusk. Beams shoot up from the fountain and gleam in the dark. A kid sits up on his dad and waves a flag. 'This is the best!' he yells.





All the streets
gleam. Each home
has a beam in the
glass. Up in the
dark, The Dark
huffs. 'Beams,
beams, beams! The
dark must be dark!'

So The Dark **sneaks**
into one home. Click!
The lamps go off.



A kid can not see his
meal. He feels his way
in the gloom, then
hides in bed. 'The
lights are off!' he wails.





The Dark **sneaks** from
home to home. Click,
click, click!

One family sits by one
wee flame. A kid
reads by it, and the
kids creep into bed.
The cat is not glad at
all.

But out on the streets, the **beams** still **gleam**. Cars and buses roll by, safe on the road. A kid sits by the road with a wee dog. The Dark huffs. '**Beams** here, **beams** there!'





Click! All the street
lamps go off.

Crash! Cars and
trucks slam and
jam up the road.

'The lights are off!'
screams the mob
in the dark.

The rides **gleam** and
spin in the dark. Kids
squeal as they ride
round and round.

The big ride **beams**
by the stars. The
Dark hisses. 'That is
the best lit thing yet!'





Click! The big ride
stops. The kids
sit still up on it.

Not a **squeak**. Not
a **squeal**. 'The
lights are off,'
says a sad kid.

Out at **sea**, one
beam still **gleams**.
The lighthouse **beam**
sweeps the waves. A
big ship and a wee
boat sail by, safe in
the **beam**. The Dark
is mad. 'That is the
last one.'





The Dark snuffs the
lighthouse **beam**.

The big ship **heads**
for the wee boat!

The kid in the boat
screams. The Dark
feels a chill. 'No,
no! This is bad.'

The Dark lets go, and
all the **beams** blaze
back! The train's
beams flash on the
track. **Each** home
gleams, and cars roll
safe on the roads. But
The Dark stays up in
the dark, sad and wee.





Then the kids come out
to play in the dark. One
waves a star wand, one
has a wee lamp, and
one spins a green stick.
'Stars must have the
dark to **gleam!**' calls a
kid. The Dark smiles.
This dark is a **real**
treat.



The Dark Sneaks In

Every night, beams of light fill the streets and homes below, but something hiding in the sky can't stand the glow. The Dark sneaks from house to house, snuffing every gleam it finds, until even the streetlights go dark. Will the town ever shine again? Written for Jolly Phonics classrooms (Step 2, Unit 8: ea as in sea), this book practices words like 'beams', 'gleam', 'sneaks', 'screams', 'treat'.

Phonics Focus: <ea>

beam, beams, each, feast, gleam, gleams, heads, meal, reads, real, screams, sea, sneaks, squeak, squeal, treat

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