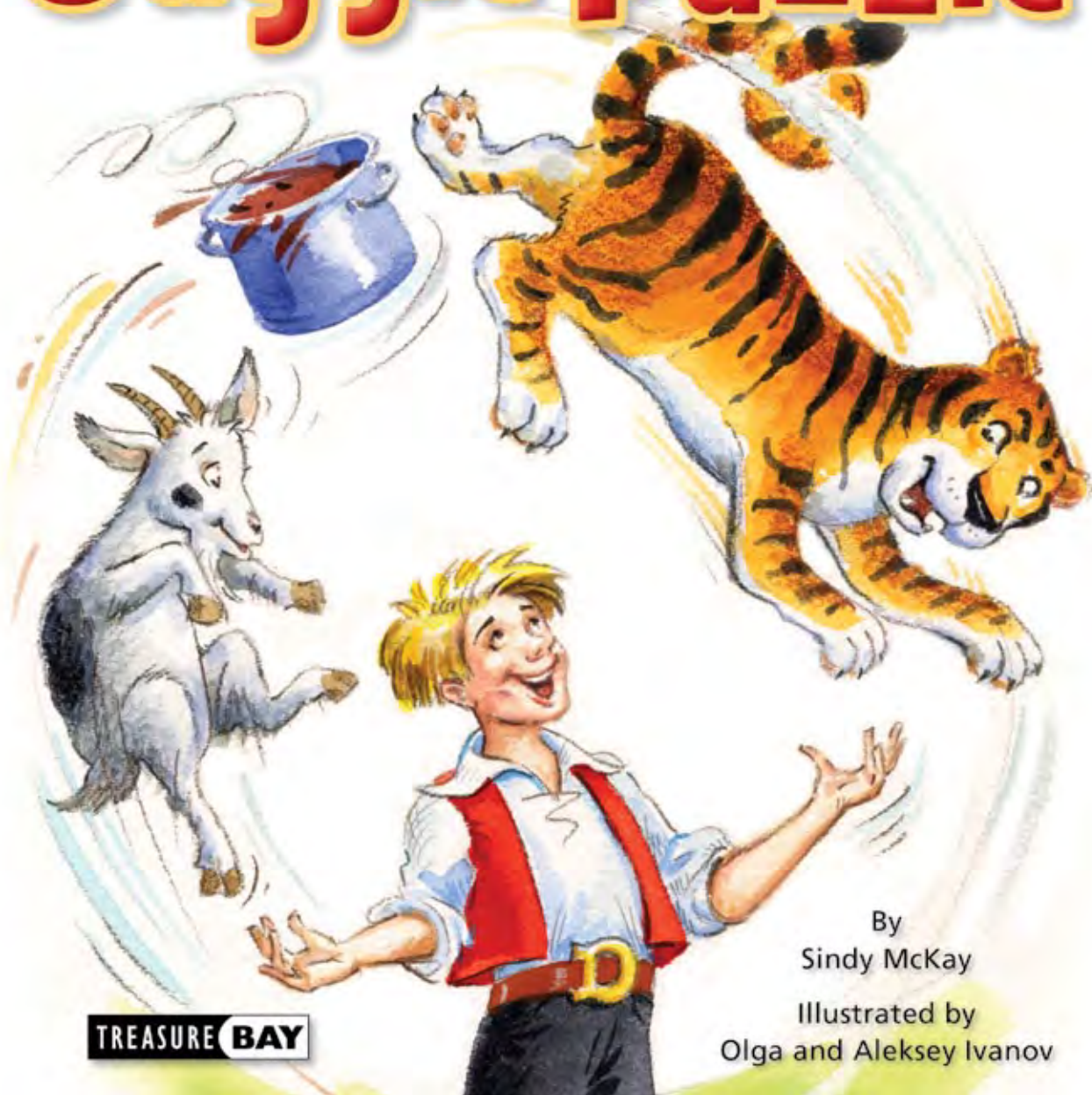


Sample of Cover and Selected Pages

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The Juggle Puzzle



By
Sindy McKay

Illustrated by
Olga and Aleksey Ivanov

Parent's Introduction

Welcome to **We Read Phonics**! This series is designed to help you assist your child in reading. Each book includes a story, as well as some simple word games to play with your child. The games focus on the phonics skills and sight words your child will use in reading the story.

Here are some recommendations for using this book with your child:

1 Word Play

There are word games both before and after the story. Make these games fun and playful. If your child becomes bored or frustrated, play a different game or take a break.



Many of the games require printed materials (for example, sight word cards). You can print free game materials from your computer by going online to www.WeReadPhonics.com and clicking on the Game Materials link for this title. However, game materials can also be easily made with paper and a marker—and making them with your child can be a great learning activity.

2 Read the Story

After some word play, read the story aloud to your child—or read the story together, by reading aloud at the same time or by taking turns. As you and your child read, move your finger under the words.

Next, have your child read the entire story to you while you follow along with your finger under the words. If there is some difficulty with a word, either help your child to sound it out or wait about five seconds and then say the word.

3 Discuss and Read Again

After reading the story, talk about it with your child. Ask questions like, “What happened in the story?” and “What was the best part?” It will be helpful for your child to read this story to you several times. Another great way for your child to practice is by reading the book to a younger sibling, a pet, or even a stuffed animal!

So what did you like best in this story?

I really liked how he got everything across the river.



Phonics Game

Making Words

Creating words using new letter patterns will help your child read this story.



Materials:

Option 1—Fast and Easy: To print free game materials from your computer, go online to www.WeReadPhonics.com, then go to this book title and click on the link to "View & Print: Game Materials."

Option 2—Make Your Own: You'll need thick paper or cardboard, crayon or marker, and scissors. Cut 2 x 2 inch squares from the paper or cardboard and print these letters and letter patterns on the squares: oa, ew, ow, y, g, t, d, n, l, sh, ch, r, b, ck, and u.

- 1 Place the cards letter side up in front of your child.
- 2 Ask your child to make and say words using the letters available. For example, your child could choose the letters "b," "oa," and "t," and make the word *boat*.
- 3 If your child has difficulty, try presenting letters that will make a specific word. For example, present "g," "oa," and "t," and ask your child to make *goat*. You could then ask your child to find a letter to change the word to *boat*.
- 4 Ask your child to make as many words as possible that use the "oa," "ew," "ow," and "y" cards. These letter patterns are used in the story. Possible words include *goat, boat, shy, try, show, showy, boat, row, dew, chew, new, lucky, and road*.

Sight Word Game

Go Fish

Play this game to practice sight words used in the story.



Materials:

Option 1—Fast and Easy: To print free game materials from your computer, go online to www.WeReadPhonics.com, then go to this book title and click on the link to "View & Print: Game Materials."

Option 2—Make Your Own: You'll need 18 index cards and a marker. Write each word listed on the right on two cards. You will now have two sets of cards.

- 1 Using one set of cards, ask your child to repeat each word after you. Shuffle both decks of cards together, and deal three cards to each player. Put the remaining cards face down in a pile.
- 2 Player 1 asks player 2 for a particular word. If player 2 has the word card, then he passes it to player 1. If player 2 does not have the word card, then he says, "Go fish," and player 1 takes a card from the pile. Player 2 takes a turn.
- 3 Whenever a player has two cards with the same word, he puts those cards down on the table and says the word out loud. The player with the most matches wins the game.
- 4 Keep the cards and combine them with other sight word cards you make. Use them all to play this game or play sight word games featured in other **We Read Phonics** books.

soon

they

would

saw

could

without

know

how

juggle



Meet Side Show Dean. He is in Mister Bob's Traveling Show. He can juggle a tiger, a goat, and a pot of stew.



Dean must never miss or drop them. If he did, the goat would eat the stew.



Then the tiger would eat the goat.



Lucky for the goat, Dean never makes a mistake or misses.



One day, Dean woke up late. Mister Bob's Traveling Show had left without him. Dean had to catch up with the show!



He saw wagon tracks. He followed
the tracks down the road.



The tracks stopped at a river. Dean saw Mister Bob's Traveling Show on the far side.

How could he reach them?



Then Dean saw a small rowboat. It could carry Dean plus one more thing. Dean had to think.