

Zachary Is In This Story

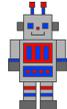


Played

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.

Read-Aloud! Grade Level: 1-2
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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."

Read-Aloud! Grade Level: 1-2
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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."

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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."

Read-Aloud! Grade Level: 1-2
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Cody Went to a City



By Clark Ness

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Reading Level: Flesch-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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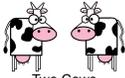
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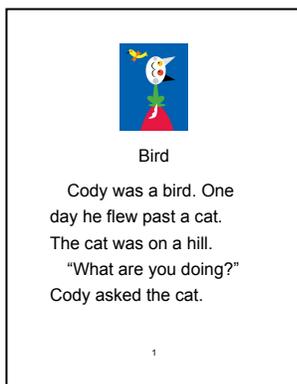


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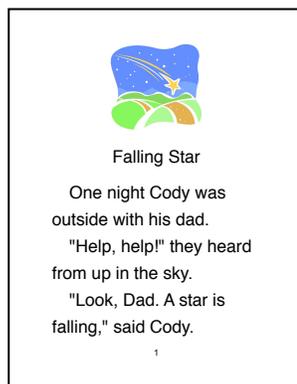


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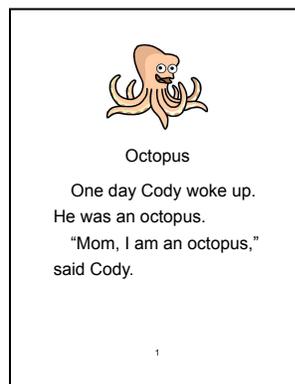
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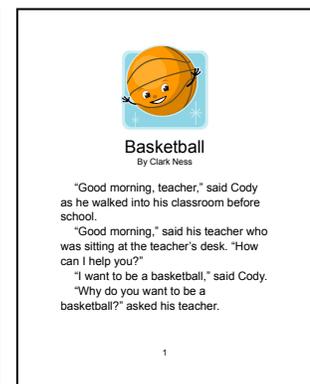
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Played

Zachary 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.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.8

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Two Cows

“I saw two cows,” said Zachary.

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

“Moo,” said the two COWS.

“Moo,” said Zachary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.8

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Race

Zachary likes to race.

One day he was in a race.

He ran and ran. He ran

fast. Zachary won the

race. He was happy.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.7

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Saw a Cat

“I saw a cat,” said Zachary.

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

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

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.5

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Out of the Water

Zachary was a fish. One day he swam fast. He went so fast that he jumped out of the water.

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

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.3

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Fox

Zachary went for a walk and met a fox.

“How do you do?” said Zachary 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 Zachary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.2

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Crocodile

One day Zachary woke up.

He was a crocodile. He went to school. He scared his teacher.

His friends thought he looked cool.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.0

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Singing Flower

Zachary is a flower. He loves to sing. He is a singing flower. He sings and sings.

Zachary thinks that singing is fun.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.0

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Christmas Tree

Zachary helped with the Christmas tree. He put candy canes on it. He put balls on it.

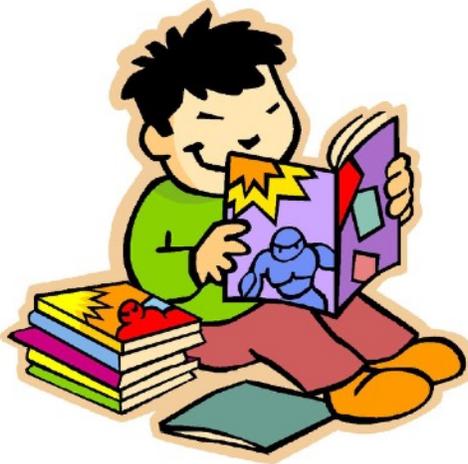
His dog helped too. The tree looked great.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.9

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Read a Book

“I think I will read a book,” said Zachary. Soon he was done.

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

Soon he was done reading seven books.

“That was fun,” said Zachary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.8

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Ice Cream Truck

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

“I hope it stops by my home.”

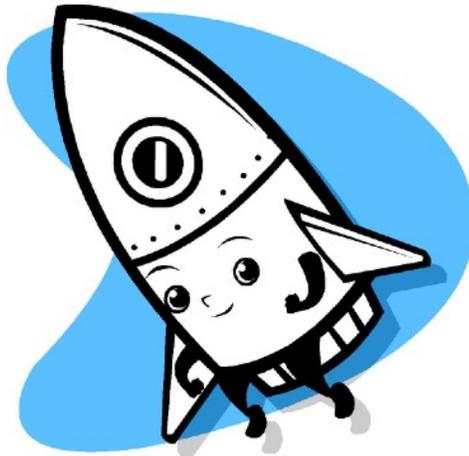
“I want to buy an ice cream treat.”

“It will taste so good.”

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.6

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Rocket

“I want to be a rocket,”
said Zachary.

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

“Now that was fun,” said
Zachary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.6

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Surfing Dog

Zachary is a cool dog.
He has a surf board. He
loves to go to the beach
with his surf board. He
goes surfing at the beach.

Zachary thinks surfing is
cool.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.6

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Cat Lover

Zachary is a cat lover.
He loves cats. He loves
big cats.

Zachary loves little cats.
He loves pretty cats. He
loves ugly cats. Zachary
loves all cats.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.5

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Dog Lover

Zachary is a dog lover.
He loves dogs. He loves
big dogs.

Zachary loves little dogs.
He loves pretty dogs. He
loves ugly dogs. Zachary
loves all dogs.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.5

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Fly to School

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

He put on his flying suit. He flew to school.

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

“It was easy,” said Zachary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.5

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Happy Cat

“Can you see me?” said Zachary.

“I am a cat.”

“I am a happy cat.”

“I am Zachary the happy cat,” said Zachary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.5

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Happy Dog

“Can you see me?” said Zachary.

“I am a dog.”

“I am a happy dog.”

“I am Zachary the happy dog,” said Zachary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.5

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Rhino

Zachary is a rhino. He likes to play soccer. He can kick the ball. He can score a goal.

Zachary likes being a rhino.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.4

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A Deer

Zachary went for a walk.
He was very quiet. He
looked.

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

Zachary was glad that
he saw a baby deer.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.3

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Pet Dragon

“I want a pet dragon,”
said Zachary.

“It could play with me.”

“It could read books to
me.”

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

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.3

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Owl

Zachary 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 Zachary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.2

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Horse With Wings

One day Zachary
became a horse with
wings.

He flew to his school.
Zachary took each of his
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 Zachary.

“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 Zachary. He is a happy turtle. He likes to run.

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

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.1

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Giraffe

“I am a giraffe,” said Zachary.

“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 Zachary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.2

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Bubbles

Zachary made bubbles.

Some bubbles were big.

Some bubbles were small.

Zachary made a lot of
bubbles. He had fun.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.1

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Chicken

“I saw a chicken,” said Zachary.

“She wore glasses and had a book.”

“She was reading to her chicks.”

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

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.1

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Horses

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

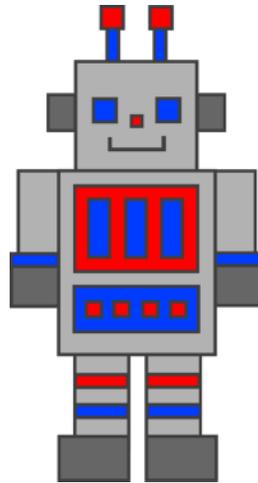
Zachary liked seeing the
horses.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.1

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Robot

“Can I have a robot?”
said Zachary.

“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 Zachary.

“It was knitting a sock.”

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

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

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.1

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Snow Skiing

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

“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,” he said.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.1

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Rabbit

“I want to be a rabbit,”
said Zachary.

“I would have two long
ears.”

“I could hop and hop.”

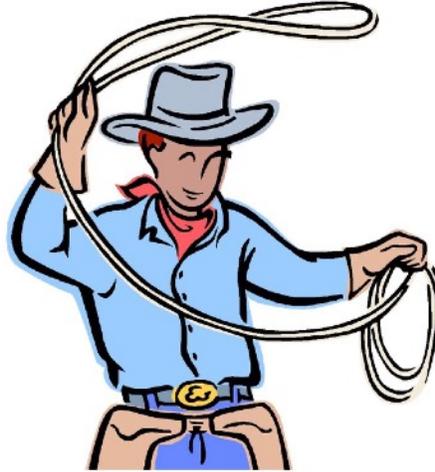
“I would even like to eat
carrots,” said Zachary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.2

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Cowboy

“I am going to be a cowboy,” said Zachary.

“I will have a rope.”

“I will ride a horse.”

“I will herd my cattle.”

“It will be neat to be a cowboy,” said Zachary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.3

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Bear

Zachary 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 Zachary.

“Yes, it is,” said the bear.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.5

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Soccer Ball

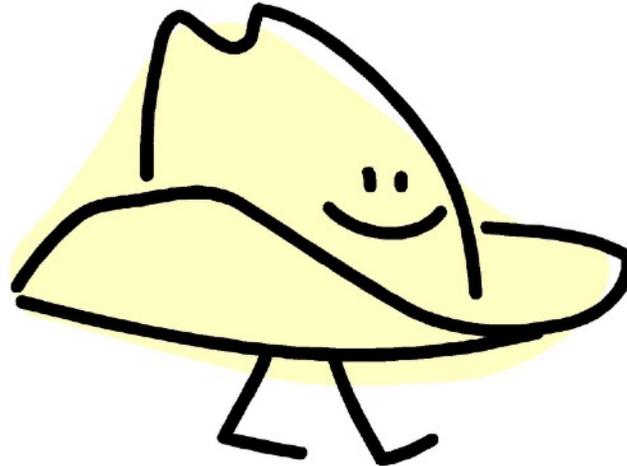
Zachary has a soccer ball. He plays soccer with it every day.

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

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.5

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Hat

Zachary saw a hat walk by.

“Where are you going?” asked Zachary.

“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 Zachary saw a rat.

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

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

“Hope you have fun,” said Zachary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.7

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Safari

“I went to Africa,” said Zachary.

“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

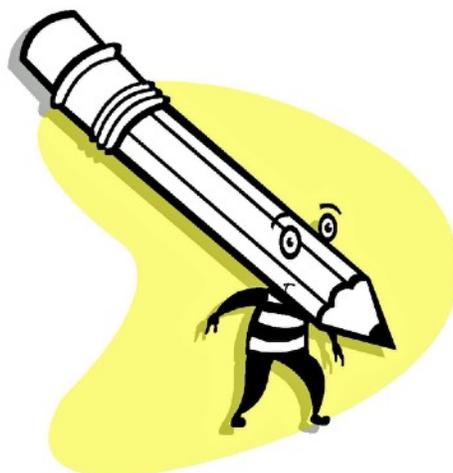
“I have a pencil,” said Zachary. “I use it every day. I write stories with it. I answer questions. I solve math problems.”

“My pencil is a great tool to have.”

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 0.9

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Pencil

One day Zachary woke up.

He was a pencil.

“I think I will write a story,” said Zachary. He 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 Zachary. “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
Zachary.

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 Zachary.

“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 Zachary.

“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 Zachary.

“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 Zachary.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 1.0

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Monsters

“I saw three monsters today,” said Zachary.

“They were happy monsters going for a walk.”

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

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 1.0

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Pet Shop

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

“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 Zachary.

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 Zachary.

“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 Zachary.

“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 Zachary.

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 Zachary.

“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 Zachary.

“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 Zachary.

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 Zachary.

“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

Zachary is a kangaroo.

He likes to play basketball.

He can jump. He can shoot.

Zachary likes being a
kangaroo.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 1.9

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Lemonade

Zachary made some lemonade. He set up a lemonade stand. He sold lemonade to his friends and family.

Zachary 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 Zachary.

“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 Zachary.

“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 Zachary.

“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 Zachary.

“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 Zachary.

“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

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

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

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 4.7

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Zachary Saw



By Clark Ness

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Reading Level: Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.6

Fiction

Cat



Zachary saw a cat.

It was a big cat.

“I saw a cat,” said
Zachary.

“It was a big cat,” he
said.

Bat



Zachary saw a bat.

It was a big bat.

“I saw a bat,” said
Zachary.

“It was a big bat,” he
said.

Rat



Zachary saw a rat.

It was a big rat.

“I saw a rat,” said
Zachary.

“It was a big rat,” he
said.

Ant



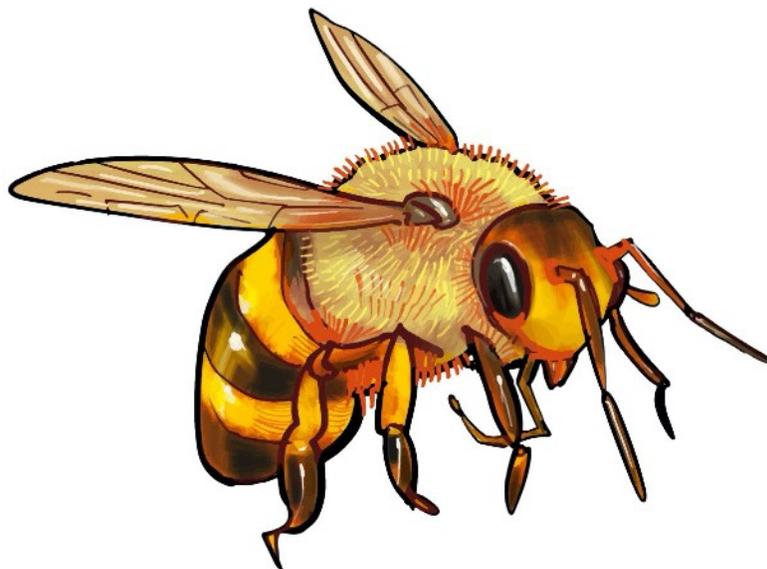
Zachary saw an ant.

It was a big ant.

“I saw an ant,” said
Zachary.

“It was a big ant,” he
said.

Bee



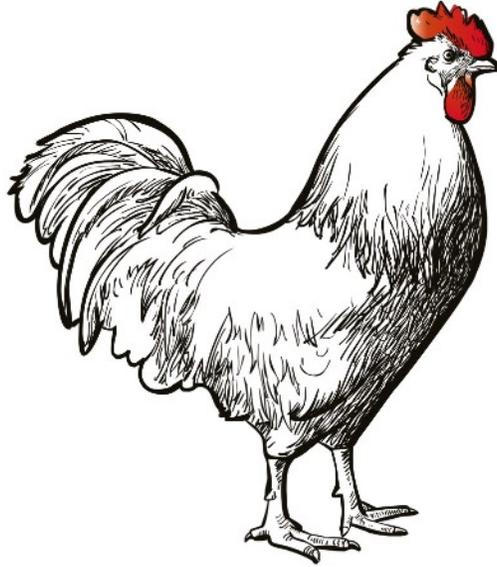
Zachary saw a bee.

It was a big bee.

“I saw a bee,” said
Zachary.

“It was a big bee,” he
said.

Hen



Zachary saw a hen.

It was a big hen.

“I saw a hen,” said
Zachary.

“It was a big hen,” he
said.

Elk



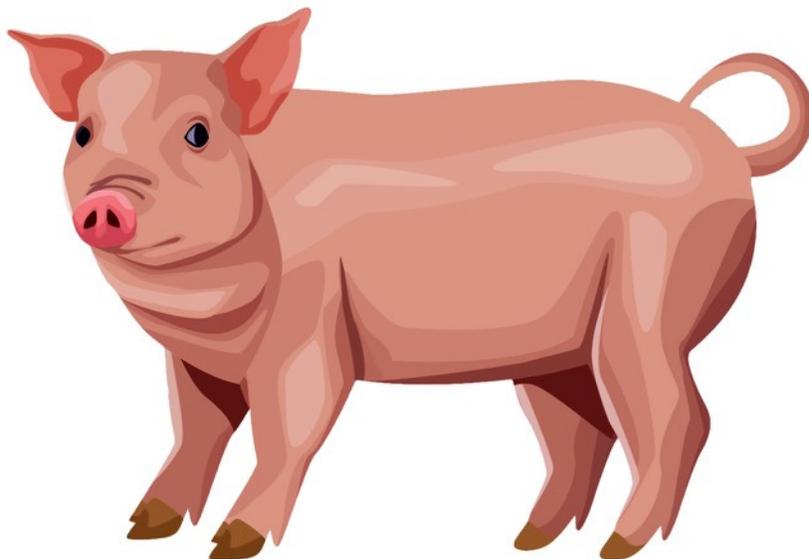
Zachary saw an elk.

It was a big elk.

“I saw an elk,” said
Zachary.

“It was a big elk,” he
said.

Pig



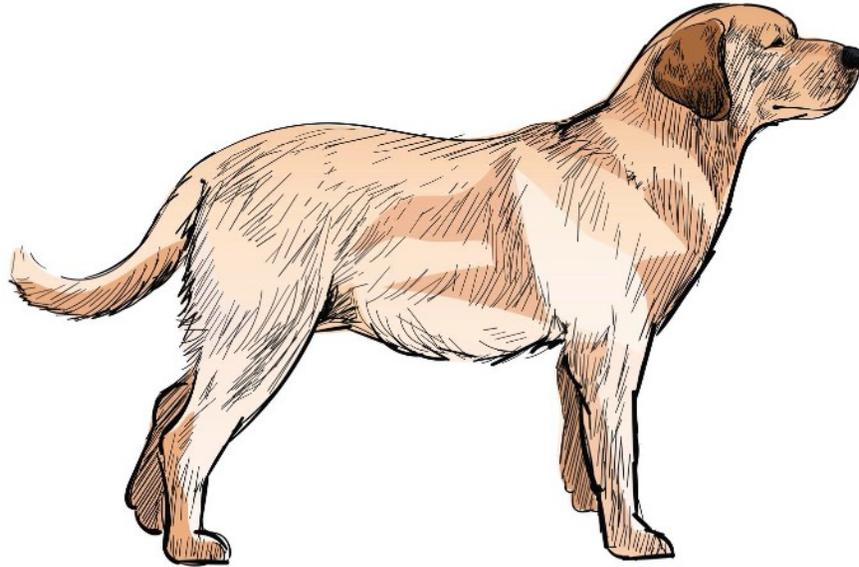
Zachary saw a pig.

It was a big pig.

“I saw a pig,” said
Zachary.

“It was a big pig,” he
said.

Dog



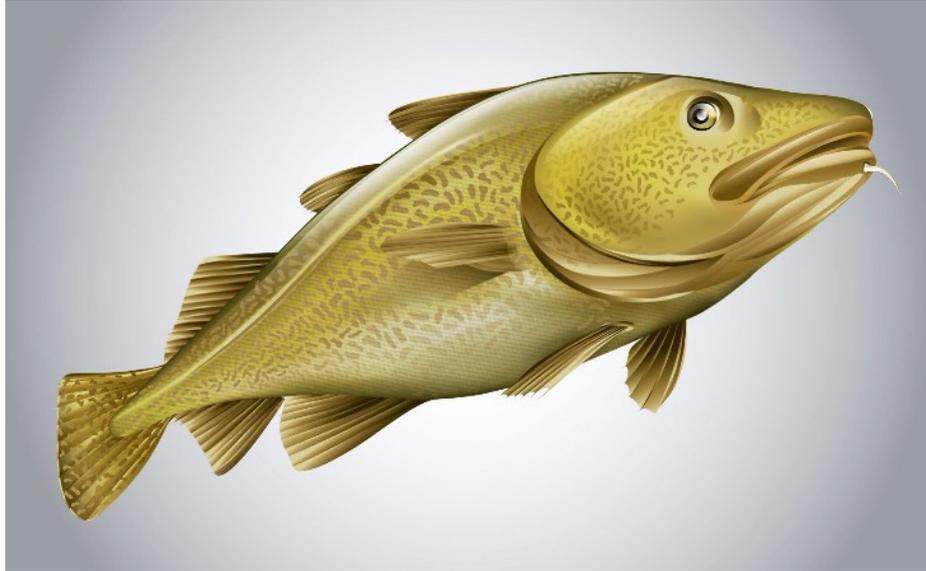
Zachary saw a dog.

It was a big dog.

“I saw a dog,” said
Zachary.

“It was a big dog,” he
said.

Cod



Zachary saw a cod.

It was a big cod.

“I saw a cod,” said
Zachary.

“It was a big cod,” he
said.

Fox



Zachary saw a fox.

It was a big fox.

“I saw a fox,” said
Zachary.

“It was a big fox,” he
said.

Cow



Zachary saw a cow.

It was a big cow.

“I saw a cow,” said
Zachary.

“It was a big cow,” he
said.

Owl



Zachary saw an owl.

It was a big owl.

“I saw an owl,” said
Zachary.

“It was a big owl,” he
said.

Bug



Zachary saw a bug.

It was a big bug.

“I saw a bug,” said
Zachary.

“It was a big bug,” he
said.

Pup



Zachary saw a pup.

It was a big pup.

“I saw a pup,” said
Zachary.

“It was a big pup,” he
said.

Fly



Zachary saw a fly.

It was a big fly.

“I saw a fly,” said
Zachary.

“It was a big fly,” he said.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.6

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Zachary Saw a Cab



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Reading Level: Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.6

Fiction

Cab



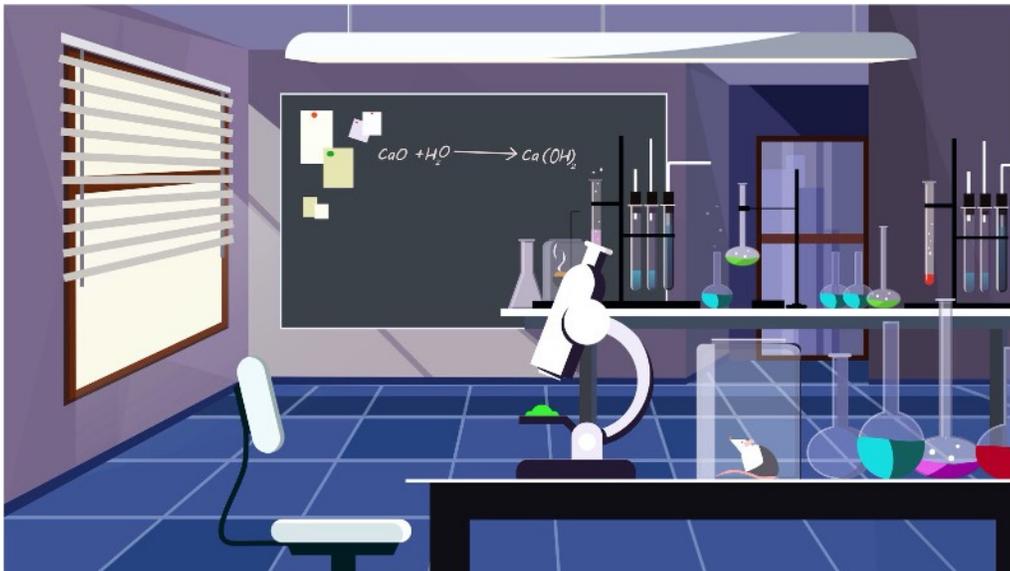
Zachary saw a cab.

It was a nice cab.

“I saw a cab,” said
Zachary.

“It was a nice cab,” he
said.

Lab



Zachary saw a lab.

It was a nice lab.

“I saw a lab,” said
Zachary.

“It was a nice lab,” he
said.

Bag



Zachary saw a bag.

It was a nice bag.

“I saw a bag,” said
Zachary.

“It was a nice bag,” he
said.

Rag



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Zachary saw a rag.

It was a nice rag.

“I saw a rag,” said
Zachary.

“It was a nice rag,” he
said.

Yam



Zachary saw a yam.

It was a nice yam.

“I saw a yam,” said
Zachary.

“It was a nice yam,” he
said.

Can



Zachary saw a can.

It was a nice can.

“I saw a can,” said
Zachary.

“It was a nice can,” he
said.

Fan



Zachary saw a fan.

It was a nice fan.

“I saw a fan,” said
Zachary.

“It was a nice fan,” he
said.

Pan



Zachary saw a pan.

It was a nice pan.

“I saw a pan,” said
Zachary.

“It was a nice pan,” he
said.

Van



Zachary saw a van.

It was a nice van.

“I saw a van,” said
Zachary.

“It was a nice van,” he
said.

Cap



Zachary saw a cap.

It was a nice cap.

“I saw a cap,” said
Zachary.

“It was a nice cap,” he
said.

Map



Zachary saw a map.

It was a nice map.

“I saw a map,” said
Zachary.

“It was a nice map,” he
said.

Bat



Zachary saw a bat.

It was a nice bat.

“I saw a bat,” said
Zachary.

“It was a nice bat,” he
said.

Hat



Zachary saw a hat.

It was a nice hat.

“I saw a hat,” said
Zachary.

“It was a nice hat,” he
said.

Mat



Zachary saw a mat.

It was a nice mat.

“I saw a mat,” said
Zachary.

“It was a nice mat,” he
said.

Vat



Zachary saw a vat.

It was a nice vat.

“I saw a vat,” said
Zachary.

“It was a nice vat,” he
said.

Sax



Zachary saw a sax.

It was a nice sax.

“I saw a sax,” said
Zachary.

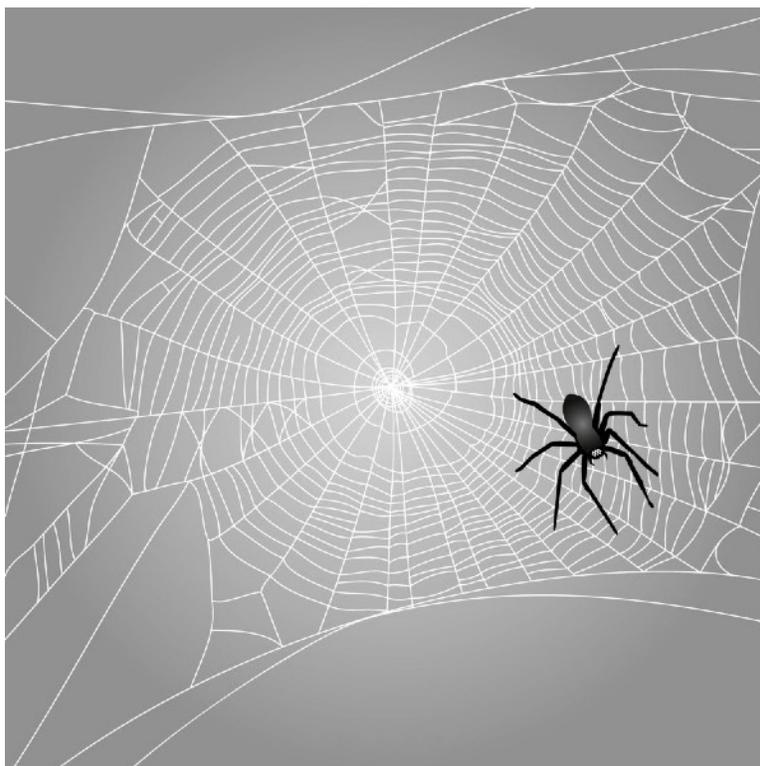
“It was a nice sax,” he
said.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.6

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Zachary Saw a Web



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Reading Level: Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.6

Fiction

Web



Zachary saw a web.

It was a cool web.

“I saw a web,” said
Zachary.

“It was a cool web,” he
said.

Gem



Zachary saw a gem.

It was a cool gem.

“I saw a gem,” said
Zachary.

“It was a cool gem,” he
said.

Pen



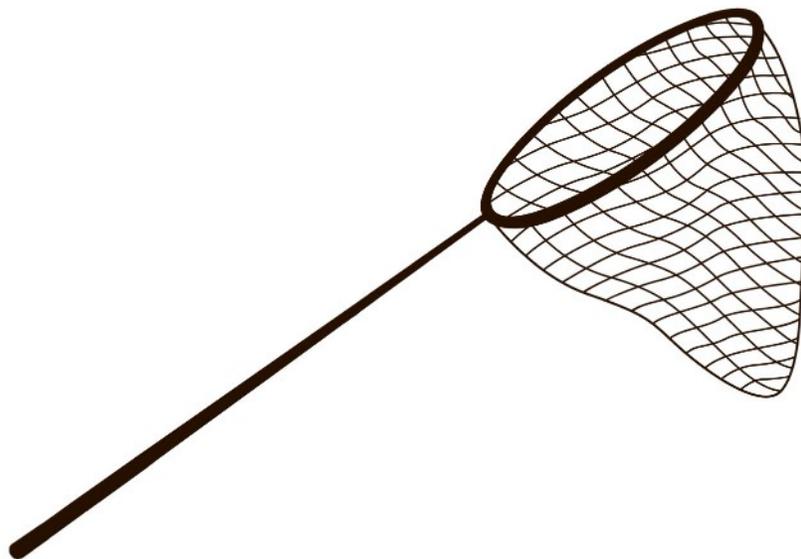
Zachary saw a pen.

It was a cool pen.

“I saw a pen,” said
Zachary.

“It was a cool pen,” he
said.

Net



Zachary saw a net.

It was a cool net.

“I saw a net,” said
Zachary.

“It was a cool net,” he
said.

Jet



Zachary saw a jet.

It was a cool jet.

“I saw a jet,” said
Zachary.

“It was a cool jet,” he
said.

Wig



Zachary saw a wig.

It was a cool wig.

“I saw a wig,” said
Zachary.

“It was a cool wig,” he
said.

Bin



Zachary saw a bin.

It was a cool bin.

“I saw a bin,” said
Zachary.

“It was a cool bin,” he
said.

Fin



Zachary saw a fin.

It was a cool fin.

“I saw a fin,” said
Zachary.

“It was a cool fin,” he
said.

Pin



Zachary saw a pin.

It was a cool pin.

“I saw a pin,” said
Zachary.

“It was a cool pin,” he
said.

Rod



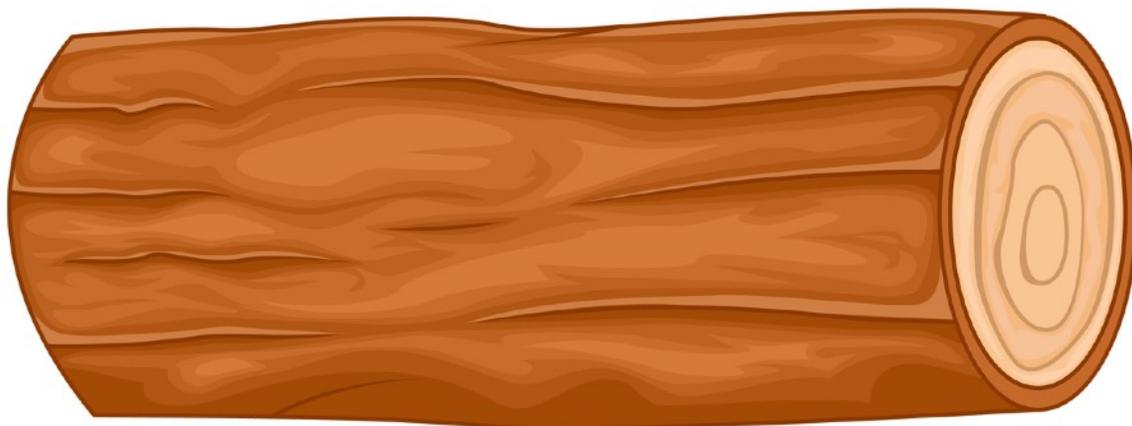
Zachary saw a rod.

It was a cool rod.

“I saw a rod,” said
Zachary.

“It was a cool rod,” he
said.

Log



Zachary saw a log.

It was a cool log.

“I saw a log,” said
Zachary.

“It was a cool log,” he
said.

Mop



Zachary saw a mop.

It was a cool mop.

“I saw a mop,” said
Zachary.

“It was a cool mop,” he
said.

Top



Zachary saw a top.

It was a cool top.

“I saw a top,” said
Zachary.

“It was a cool top,” he
said.

Cot



Photograph © Rosenman - en.wikipedia.org

Zachary saw a cot.

It was a cool cot.

“I saw a cot,” said
Zachary.

“It was a cool cot,” he
said.

Pot



Zachary saw a pot.

It was a cool pot.

“I saw a pot,” said
Zachary.

“It was a cool pot,” he
said.

Box



Zachary saw a box.

It was a cool box.

“I saw a box,” said
Zachary.

“It was a cool box,” he
said.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.6

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Zachary Saw a Tub



By Clark Ness

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Reading Level: Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.6

Fiction

Tub



Zachary saw a tub.

It was a neat tub.

“I saw a tub,” said
Zachary.

“It was a neat tub,” he
said.

Jug



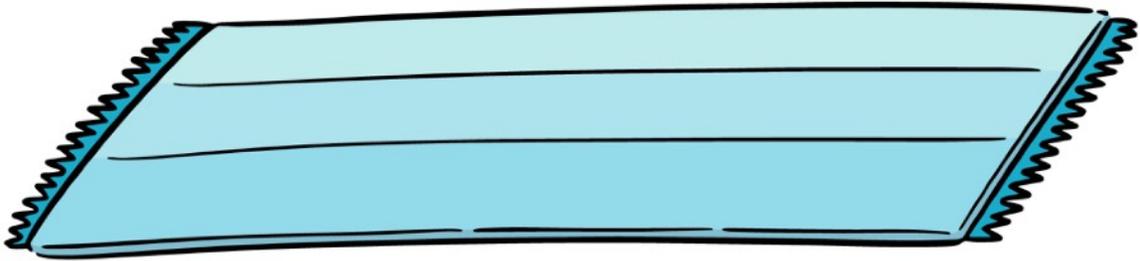
Zachary saw a jug.

It was a neat jug.

“I saw a jug,” said
Zachary.

“It was a neat jug,” he
said.

Rug



Zachary saw a rug.
It was a neat rug.
“I saw a rug,” said
Zachary.
“It was a neat rug,” he
said.

Bun



Zachary saw a bun.

It was a neat bun.

“I saw a bun,” said
Zachary.

“It was a neat bun,” he
said.

Cup



Zachary saw a cup.

It was a neat cup.

“I saw a cup,” said
Zachary.

“It was a neat cup,” he
said.

Bus



Zachary saw a bus.

It was a neat bus.

“I saw a bus,” said
Zachary.

“It was a neat bus,” he
said.

Hut



Zachary saw a hut.

It was a neat hut.

“I saw a hut,” said
Zachary.

“It was a neat hut,” he
said.

Nut



Zachary saw a nut.

It was a neat nut.

“I saw a nut,” said
Zachary.

“It was a neat nut,” he
said.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.6

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Zachary Went to a Farm



By Clark Ness

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Reading Level: Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.2

Fiction



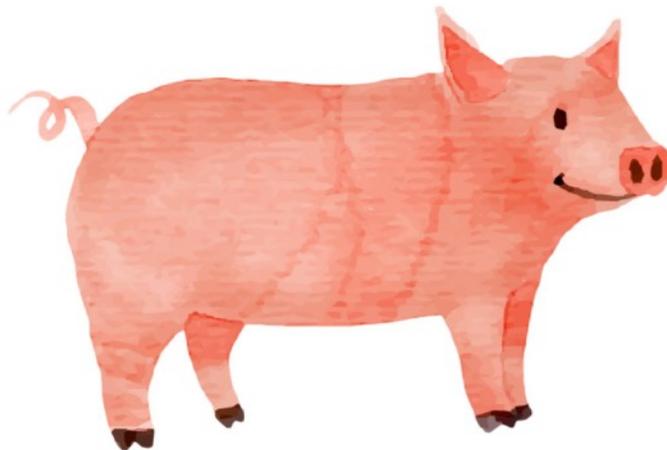
Zachary went to a
farm. He saw a
horse. It was a nice
horse.



Zachary went to a
farm. He saw a
cow. It was a nice
COW.



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



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



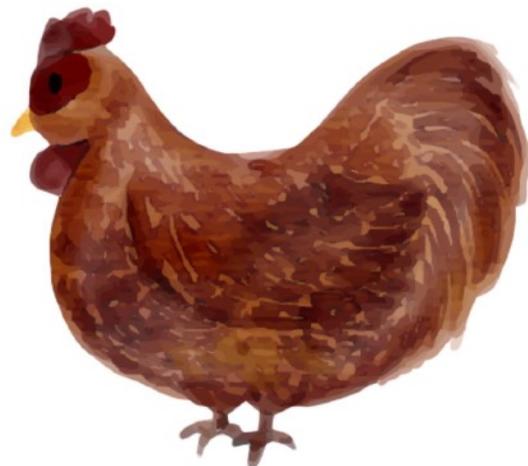
Zachary went to a farm. There was a sheep. It was a nice sheep.



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



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



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



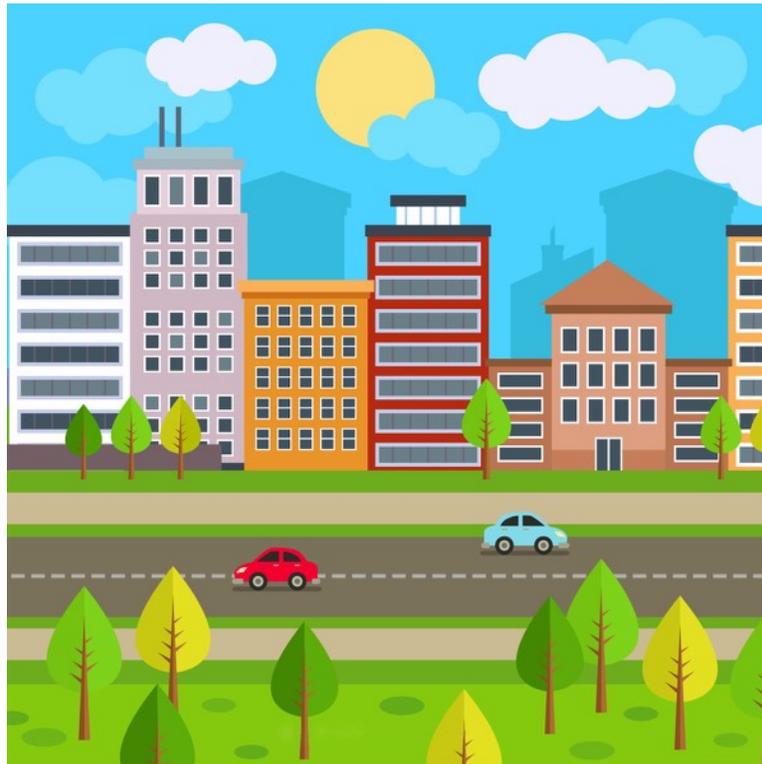
Zachary was
happy that he went
to a nice farm.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -1.2

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Zachary Went to a City

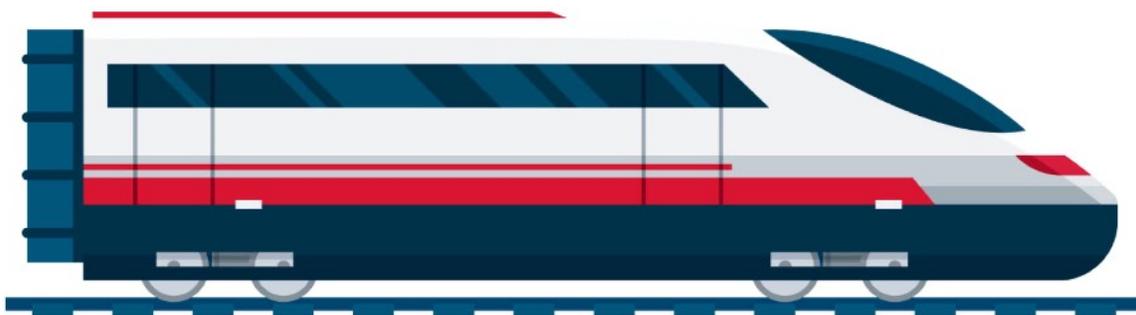


By Clark Ness

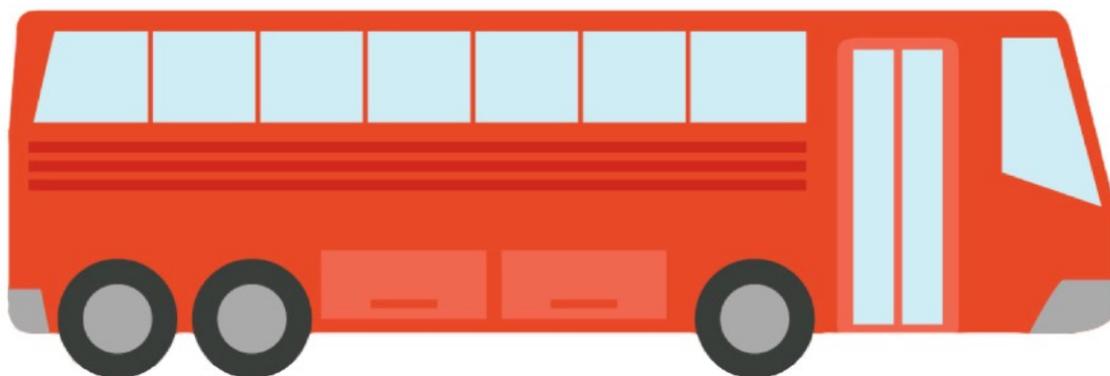
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Reading Level: Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.4

Fiction



Zachary went to a
city. He saw a train.
It was a nice train.



Zachary went to a
city. He saw a bus.
It was a nice bus.



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



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



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



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



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



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



Zachary was
happy that he went
to a nice city.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level -0.4

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Zachary 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.

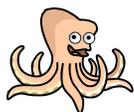
1



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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By Clark Ness

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Bird

Zachary was a bird.
One day he flew past a
cat.

The cat was on a hill.

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



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

“Come and fly with me,”
said Zachary.

“I cannot fly,” said the
cat.

“That is too bad,” said
Zachary.



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

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

“That would be nice,” said the cat.



So Zachary went and
flew all around.

He then came back to
the cat.

Zachary told the cat
what he had seen.

The cat was happy.



“Thank you,” said the
cat.

“You are welcome,”
said Zachary.

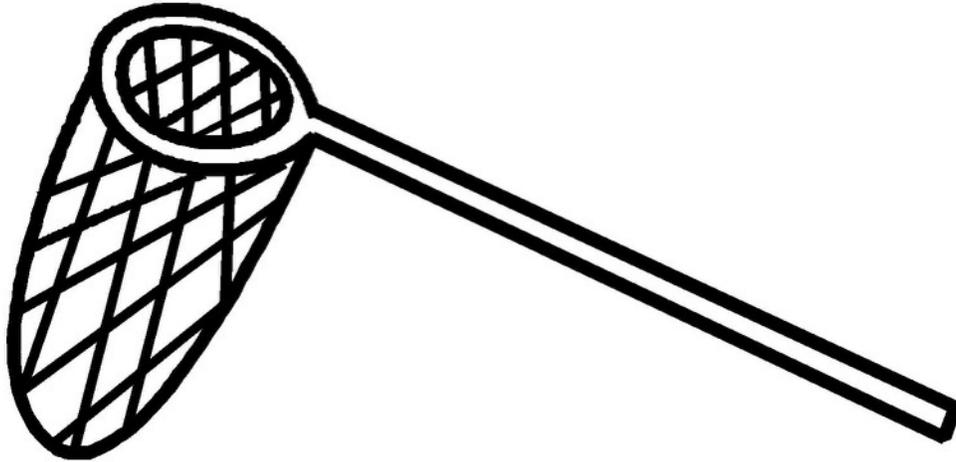


Falling Star

One night Zachary was outside with his dad.

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

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



"What should we do?"
said his dad.

"I know what to do,"
said Zachary.

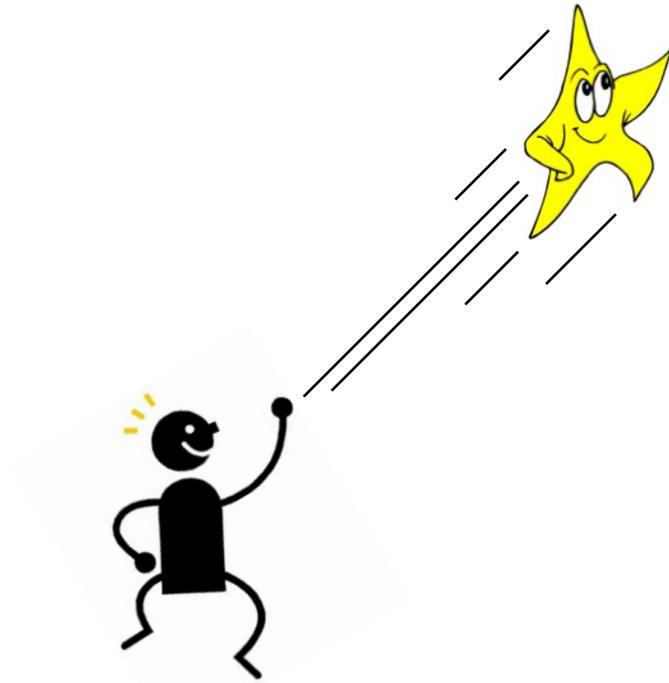
He ran and got a big
net.



Zachary 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 Zachary's dad.



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

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



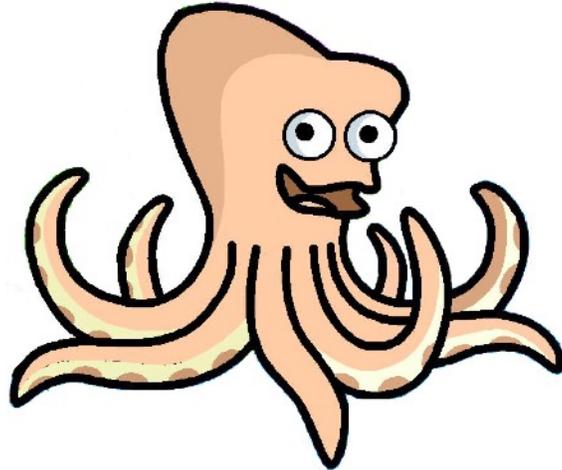
"Thanks so much," said the star from high up in the sky.

Zachary was proud that he had saved a falling star.

Flesch Kincaid Grade Level -0.1

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Octopus

One day Zachary woke up. He was an octopus.

“Mom, I am an octopus,” said Zachary.



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

Zachary thought and thought.

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



He got out a guitar and played it.

He got out a trumpet and played it.

He got out a drum and played it.

He then got out a maraca and played it.



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

He picked up the maraca. He put the drum next to him. He picked up the trumpet. He then picked up the guitar.



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

“Your band sounds great,” said his mother.

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

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 1.0

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Basketball

By Clark Ness

“Good morning, Teacher,” said Zachary 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 Zachary.

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



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

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

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



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

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

“Do you want to go out and play basketball?” asked Zachary the basketball. His friend stopped right in his tracks and looked at the talking basketball.

“How can a basketball talk?” he asked.



“It’s me, Zachary,” said Zachary. “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 Zachary 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 Zachary back inside.”

Zachary’s friend grabbed Zachary the basketball and ran outside with him.

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

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

“Neat,” said the kids.



The kids all played basketball with Zachary the basketball.

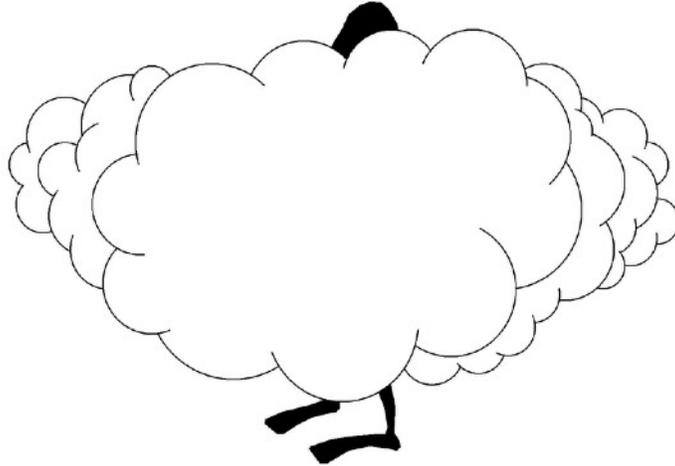
“Does it hurt being a basketball?” asked one of the friends.

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

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

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

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



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

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

“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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