Huhu in the Mud

By Anna Kirschberg and Maggie Boston | Illustrated by Giselle Clarkson

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Huhu likes to run and jog.

He jogs into thick mud. Jig, jig, jig. He can't get out.





"I am stuck in the mud!" says Huhu. Ruru gets a thin log.

Huhu gets out of the mud. Thud!





"Ka pai!" says Huhu. "I can run and jog."

TEACHING NOTES

Huhu in the Mud

Reading practice

This story provides children with the opportunity to practise reading the letter-sound patterns they have learned, alongside learning other high utility non-decodable words.

Focus sounds

th j

Introduce the text to children and read the story aloud together, pointing to each word as it is read. There are two types of words in the story: regular decodable words and words that are not. These words are listed below. Support children to sound out the regular words and then blend the sounds together to read the word. When reading the words that can't be sounded out, children can simply be told the words. Give plenty of praise for children's reading attempts and encourage re-reading to build accuracy and fluency.

Regular words for sounding out	jig, jog, thick, thin, log, mud, thud, run, stuck, and, get, am, in, can					
Other words to tell your child	Huhu, likes, can't, to, out, ka pai, he, into, I, the, says, Ruru, a, of					

Phonological awareness

Practise segmenting and blending sounds together to make words. You could say, *"Let's say the sounds* (phonemes) *together in each word I say."*

Help children find each word you segment and blend on the page.

Use the table below for suggestions on how to segment and blend target words from this story.

jogs	j-o-g-s
thin	th-i-n
log	l-o-g
thud	th-u-d
stuck	s-t-u-ck

Morphological awareness

Bring attention to how words can change (e.g. jog, jog**s**, jog**ging**, jog**ged**). Draw attention to the part of the word that is the same and the part that is different. Create sentences using different forms of the word **jog**.

Vocabulary

Talk about the meaning of the word **thin**. Think of other words with a similar meaning that would make sense in the sentence, *Ruru gets a thin log* (e.g. skinny, small). Ask children to create their own sentences using **thin**, **skinny** or **small**.

Spelling

Support children to listen and identify where the sound change occurs in words. Use the suggested letters or letter blocks to spell and read the words. Prompt as necessary to ensure success.

j	g	d	t	р	s	th	n	ck	ng	о	i]
---	---	---	---	---	---	----	---	----	----	---	---	---

Use the phrasing: "If this word spells **jig**, can you spell **jog**? If this word spells **jog**, can you spell **dog**?"

Easier changes:jig > jog > dog > dot > pot > spotHarder changes:thin > thick > thing > ding > dong > song

Story discussion

Discuss how Ruru used the log to help get Huhu out of the mud. Invite children to talk about a time when they helped a friend.

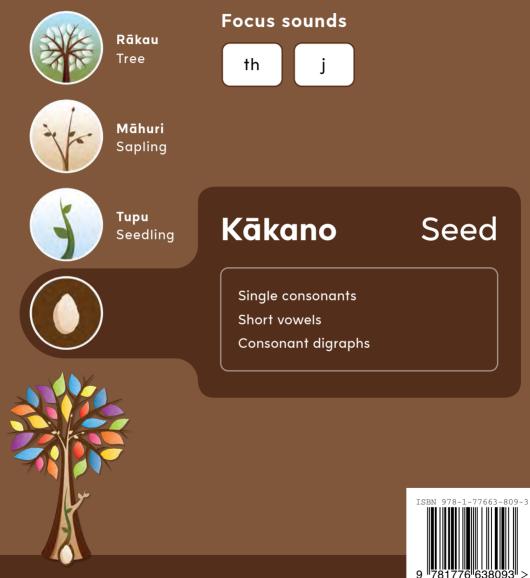
Story retell

Ask the children to retell the story to a friend or family member. Prompt as necessary, using picture cues. Give plenty of praise and encouragement for verbal responses.

Print concepts

Draw children's attention to the word **can't**. Explain that the apostrophe indicates that it is a shortened version of a word. **Can't** is a contraction of **cannot**, and can be compared to the word **can** in this story.





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