The Pest in the Tent

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Practice reading these sentences.

Megan and I sat in the tent.
The tent sat on the deck.
Fang got in the tent.
Miss Stanton’s students have pen pals. They write letters to their pen pals once a month. Let’s read one of the letters Lana wrote to her pen pal in England.

Lana had a pen pal.
Her pen pal was Bess.

Who is Bess? [Bess is Lana’s pen pal.]
What is a pen pal? [A pen pal is someone to whom you write letters.]
Lana wrote Bess a letter about the time she and Megan camped out on the deck behind Lana’s house.

Lana’s letter said:

Dear Bess,

Megan and I got a tent.

We set it up on my deck.

We put beds in the tent.

We had fun!

What did Lana write to Bess about? [Lana wrote about camping on the deck.]

What did Megan and Lana set up on the deck? [They set up a tent.]

What did they put in the tent? [They put beds in the tent.]
Before Lana and Megan could go to bed, something went wrong.

It got dark.

We heard steps.

We heard sniffs.

It was my big pet dog, Fang!

Fang got in the tent!

Lana and Megan heard two things. What did they hear? [steps and sniffs]

Who was it? [It was Fang.]

What did he do? [Fang got in the tent.]
Fang loved Lana and Megan, so when he sniffed them in the tent, he wanted to go in too! But a big dog in a small tent means trouble.

Fang sat on my bed.
He bent it.
Fang stepped on Megan’s bed.
He messed it up.
I said, “Get out, Fang!”

What happened when Fang sat on Lana’s bed? [He bent it.] Demonstrate the word “bent” with a pipe cleaner or some other bendable object.
What happened when Fang stepped on Megan’s bed? [He messed it up.]
What did Lana tell him? [“Get out, Fang!”]
Fang liked the tent, so he didn’t want to leave. How could the girls make him go?

Fang didn’t get out.
Fang was a pest.
We begged.
He did NOT get out!
We tugged at his neck.
He did NOT get out!!

Why was Fang a pest? (T-P-S)
What did Lana and Megan do? [They begged and tugged at his neck.]
Did Fang get out? [no]

Make a Prediction: Will Fang get out of the tent? How can the girls make him go? (T-P-S) Have the students support their predictions.
Then Lana remembered that Fang LOVED hard-boiled eggs. She ran into the kitchen.

I got an egg.
I fed the egg to Fang.
Fang got out of the tent!
We got back in.

What did Lana get from the kitchen? [an egg]
Why did Fang get out of the tent? [He wanted to get the egg.]
What did the girls do then? [They got back in the tent.]
“Mom! Get Fang!” I said.
“Send Fang to bed!”
Mom sent Fang to bed.
We had fun in the tent.

How did Lana solve her problem with Fang? [She called her mom.]
What did her mom do? [She sent Fang to bed.]
Fang is the best dog.
But Fang can be a pest.
Do you have a pet?

Love,
Lana
The Pest in the Tent

Use T-P-S to discuss these questions.

1. Lana wrote a letter. To whom did she write?
   [She wrote to her pen pal Bess.]

2. Why didn’t Lana and Megan want Fang in the tent?
   [Fang was a pest. He messed up Megan’s bed and bent Lana’s bed.]

3. How did Lana get Fang out of the tent?
   [Lana got an egg. Fang saw the egg and left the tent.]
Reading Roots, Level 2

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