The Fin in the Water

Story by Robert Slavin and Nancy Madden
Illustrations by Deborah Sassali
Letter sound /f/

Green Words (Phonetic):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>did</th>
<th>fin</th>
<th>puff</th>
<th>fun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>fat</td>
<td>fits</td>
<td>puffs</td>
<td>fib</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>off</td>
<td>sand</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Red Words (Sight):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>have</th>
<th>see</th>
<th>she</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>saw</td>
<td>they</td>
<td>that</td>
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</table>

Practice reading these sentences.

Nan sees a fin.
Matt says, “I did not see a fin.”
Matt was in the water.
One hot, summer afternoon, Matt’s dad takes Matt and his friend, Nan, to the beach.

The kids are at the beach. They have fun in the sun. Matt’s dad sits on the sand.
Matt’s dad has brought a tire tube for the children to float on in the water. He starts to blow it full of air.

Matt’s dad gets a ☃️. Puff! Puff! Puff! Puff!
He puffs the ☃️ big and fat.
Nan puts the tire in the water.
She gets on the tire.
She fits!
It is fun to sit on the fat tire.
Nan is floating in the water. She’s having a lot of fun! But suddenly she sees something that scares her.

Nan sees a fin in the water. Is it a shark? Nan jumps off the tire. “A fin! A fin!” she says.
Nan thinks that a fin can mean only one thing—a shark! Nan is afraid of sharks.

Nan gets back to the beach. Matt’s dad is on the sand. But Matt is not.
Where is Matt?

Nan sees him.

“Matt! I saw a fin!” says Nan.
Matt says, "I did not see a fin. I was on the sand." But Nan can see. Matt is wet.
“Matt, that is a fib,” Nan says. “That fin was not a shark. It was you!”

Matt admits that he was pretending to be the shark. He found a swim fin and held it up near Nan to scare her. Nan and Matt laugh about Matt’s funny trick! Or was it a finny trick?
1. Nan saw a ____________.

2. Did Matt see a fin?
   yes          no

3. Did Matt fib?
   yes          no
KinderRoots

The Fin in the Water

KinderRoots Shared Stories were developed under the direction of Robert E. Slavin and Nancy A. Madden, codirectors of the Success for All Foundation Family of Programs.

The mission of the Success for All Foundation is to develop and disseminate research-proven educational programs to ensure that all students, from all backgrounds, achieve at the highest academic levels.

These programs were originally developed at Johns Hopkins University.

Illustrations for this book were colored digitally by Jason Lego.

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