

The Ice Storm



Story by Meg Livingston
Illustrations by Jennifer Clark

Green Words (Phonetic):

ice cream	blankets	fireplace	faces
raced	closing	checked	fence
lights	nice	traced	asleep
mice	story	upon	dinner

Red Words (Sight):

because once their warm

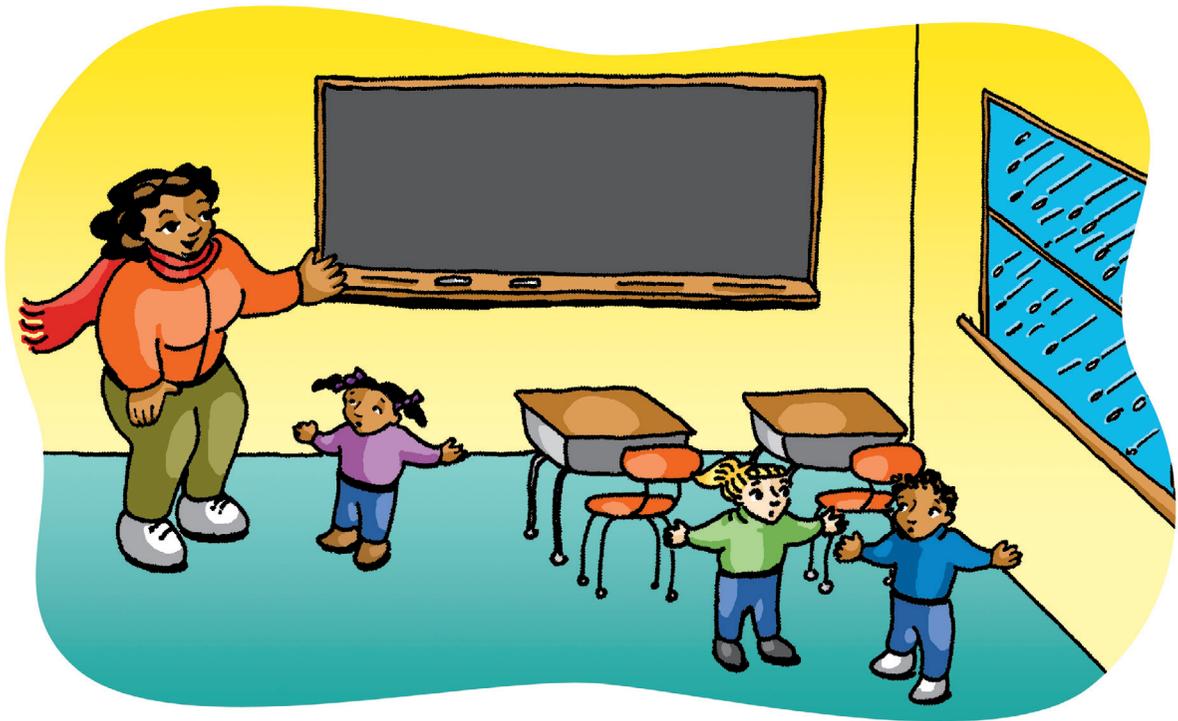
Practice reading these sentences.

The school closed because of the ice.

Fran and Vick tramped home with Deena.

The wind and ice stung their faces.

One day there was a big ice storm while the children were at school. The principal, Mrs. White, told Mr. West's class that school would close early.



“School is closing now because of the ice,” said Mr. West.

“But the bus cannot run.”

“The bus cannot take us home on the ice!” said Fran.

“Vick and I must sleep at school!”

Deena's mom came to take Deena home.

“Mom!” yelled Deena. “Fran and Vick cannot go home.”

“It's O.K.,” said Mom. “They can come home with us.”

Why is the school closing? *[There is an ice storm.]*

Why can't the bus run? *[It is too dangerous to drive the bus on ice.]*

Vick and Fran cannot go home because the bus isn't running. What will they do?
[Deena's mom will take them home with her.]

Fran and Vick were very excited at the idea of staying overnight at Deena's house in town. Everyone bundled up and got their backpacks.



Mom and all the kids tramped home. They held hands so they did not slip.

The wind and ice stung their faces. It was COLD!

They were glad to get home and go in.

What did the kids do to make sure they didn't slip on the ice? *[They all held hands as they walked.]*



The kids hung up their wet jackets. Deena's mom called Fran's mom and Vick's mom.

She said, "They can spend the night here."

Deena rubbed her face. "My face is still cold!" she said.

"Come sit by the fireplace," said Granddad.

"I lit a nice warm fire just for you."

What did the kids do when they got in the house? *[They hung up their wet jackets.]*

What did Granddad tell the kids to do? *[He said to sit by the fireplace.]*

Who made the fire? *[Granddad made the fire.]*



Granddad and the kids sat near the warm fireplace.
Deena's mom made dinner.
All of a sudden, the lights blinked on and off!
Then it was dark!
All the kids screamed! "Do not be scared," said
Granddad. "The ice made the lines fall.
But we have a fire. We are O.K."

Why did it get dark? [*The ice made the lines fall.*]

There are no lights in the house. There is no heat in the house.

How will they all stay warm? [*They have a fire.*]

➔ **Make a Prediction: What will they do without electricity?**
(T-P-S) Have the students support their predictions.

The electricity was out. Mom came in from the kitchen, carrying a candle to light her way.



“I cannot finish making dinner,” said Mom.

“The oven is not hot. The lights are off.”

“We can put hot dogs on a stick,” said Granddad.

“We can heat them in the fireplace.”

Why isn't the oven hot? *[The oven needs electricity, and the electricity doesn't work.]*

They will all eat hot dogs. How will they cook them? *[They will put them on a stick and heat them in the fireplace.]*



“Just like camping!” said Deena.

“Yes,” said Granddad. “We can camp by the fireplace. We can have a picnic and sing camping songs.”

The kids clapped their hands.

Why are the kids happy? *[Cooking by the fireplace is just like camping.]*

What else are the kids going to do while they cook their hot dogs? *[They will sing camping songs.]*



The kids ate hot dogs. They had ice cream.
They sang camping songs and played games.
“Camping IN is nice!” said Vick.
“Yes,” Fran grinned. “No mice can get in my backpack!”

What did the kids eat? *[The kids ate hot dogs and ice cream.]*

What did they do? *[They sang camping songs and played games.]*



“It is late,” said Mom. “You kids must go to bed.”

“Can we camp by the fireplace?” asked Deena.

Mom said, “Yes, you can sleep by the fire.”

“Can Granddad tell us a story?” begged Deena.

“O.K.,” said Mom.

Where will the kids sleep? *[They will sleep by the fire.]*

What will Granddad do? *[Granddad will tell them a story.]*



Mom helped the kids put sleeping bags and blankets near the fireplace. They were snug!

Granddad said, “After the story, you kids must go to sleep.”

He began, “Once upon a time...”

He did not get to the end. The kids were fast asleep!

What did the kids sleep in? *[The kids slept in sleeping bags.]* Point to a sleeping bag.
Why didn't Granddad get to the end of his story? *[The kids fell asleep.]*



The sun rose and Deena jumped out of bed.

She checked the lights.

“No lights, Mom,” she yelled.

“Then school is closed,” said Mom.

Deena raced back to the kids.

“Get up!” she yelled. “NO school! We can skate on the ice.”

Fran sat up and rubbed her face.

“Let’s get Jim and Jack,” said Vick.

Why is school closed? *[The lights still do not work.]*

What are the kids going to do today? *[They are going to skate on the ice.]*

Who will they get to join them? *[They will get Jim and Jack.]*



The kids got dressed and raced out.
Deena fell on her back in the deep snow. She looked up.
The ice on the trees looked nice.
Fran traced Deena in the snow with a stick.
Then Deena traced Fran.
“Look!” said Fran. “We traced snow kids!”

What did Fran and Deena do? *[They traced each other's bodies in the snow with a stick.]*
Point to the place in the snow where the girls traced each other.



Just then, Jim and Jack jumped over the fence.
“Hi!” they yelled. “No lights and NO school!”
“Let’s go sledding in the snow,” said Deena.
“Yes!” yelled the kids.

What are all of the kids going to do? *[They will go sledding in the snow.]*

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Use T-P-S to discuss these questions.

1. Why did the children go to Deena's house?

[The bus could not run because of the ice. They couldn't go home, so they walked to Deena's house.]

2. Why did Mom have to light a candle?

[The lights in the house went out.]

3. Why did the kids say that staying at Deena's was like camping?

[They sat by a fire, they ate hot dogs, and they sang camping songs and played games.]

Reading Roots, Level 3
The Ice Storm

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READING PROGRAM

Reading Roots 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.

Success for All Foundation is a nonprofit education reform organization that develops and disseminates research-based reading and math programs for students in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, elementary and middle schools. These programs were originally developed at Johns Hopkins University.

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FOUNDATION[®]

A Nonprofit Education Reform Organization

300 E. Joppa Road, Suite 500, Baltimore, MD 21286

PHONE: (800) 548-4998; FAX: (410) 324-4444

E-MAIL: sfainfo@successforall.org

WEBSITE: www.successforall.org